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Calgary metro



Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, MAY 26-28, 2017

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Jessica Holtsbaum and Rosalind Davis, co-founders of Changing the Face of Addiction, hold up some of the prayer flags made at an event Wednesday.
ELIZABETH CAMERON/FOR METRO



REMEMBRANCE DAY

Families honour loved ones lost to overdoses

metroNEWS

One-ways delayed for residents' input

TRAFFIC

Speed, parking among concerns



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

The City of Calgary is contemplating speed bumps, a cycle lane and other traffic-calming measures as they inch closer to turning 14 and 15 Avenue SW into one-way traffic streets.

This comes after the city announced their three-year detour plans in early May, catching residents by surprise, concerning commuters and baffling the mayor.

What citizens considered quiet residential roads would effectively carry the brunt of 17 Avenue detour traffic, including bus routes, for the next three to four years as construction on the main drag continues.

Information sessions will be held for the next couple of weeks on Tuesday and Thursday between 12 and 7 p.m. at the McHugh House. Administration will be giving residents information while collecting feedback, but city spokeswoman Jessica Bell explained much has already been decided.

"It's more about presenting that to

the public and seeing what they think about it," Bell said.

The tools on the table include temporary curb extensions on stretches that don't have signals in place, new speed bumps and speed limit sign trailers often used in playground zones. Another consideration includes a bike lane.

Beltline Neighbourhood Association president Peter Oliver said they fought for the curb extensions and a bike lane because the city's turning what was a narrow two-way traffic zone into a space double the size for cars to zip through. "It's really positive to see them working to do some course correction on the engagement — we want to keep close tabs to make sure it's a two-way conversation," Oliver said.

His group is questioning the need to turn 14 Avenue into a one-way for the entirety of three years, and hopes the city can phase the detour year by year. Oliver says residents are also concerned parking may be eaten up by the loss of spaces on 17 Avenue, and he's hoping the city can look into a temporary residential parking zone for those impacted.

"They need to address these serious safety concerns and the quality of life concerns," Oliver said.

These sessions will wrap up June 6 and soon after, probably on June 8, the streets will turn into one-way stretches.

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Homeless citizens at crossroads

INGLEWOOD

Police worried about fentanyl as encampment season begins

Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Last year, concerned Inglewood residents tossed aside the rule-book and entered a homeless camp to claim possessions they allege were stolen from their neighbours.

As summer approaches, residents are concerned they will end up at the same crossroads.

Kevin Watkins posts about these camps on the Inglewood community Facebook page, reporting them to bylaw officers and the police. He makes no bones about going into the camps, trying to connect homeless people to resources that they might need.

But sometimes, there's drugs.

"(The city) doesn't patrol these areas, we the community do," Watkins said. "They would have no idea about the camps if it wasn't for us."

He said they're concerned about overdoses, theft and the safety of those using pathways.

With the fentanyl crisis in full swing, Const. Devon Ouellette with the Calgary Police Vulnerable Persons Unit said there's a worry about the opioid taking hold while addicts are alone.

"A lot of people that camp, I'd say there's a majority that



Kevin Watkins patrols the area behind the train tracks in the Inglewood Wildlands for stolen property. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

camp alone," Ouellette said. "If they are using, and something does happen, like an overdose ... they are alone. Fentanyl affects you quite quickly."

He said if someone was overdosing in a camp, they would be too secluded, the drugs would work too quickly and they wouldn't be able to find help.

"We could have people dying in the camps," Ouellette said. "We haven't to my knowledge yet fully determined that someone's death is due to a

fentanyl overdose in a camp."

It's Community Peace officer Jody St. Pierre who actually enters these camps, builds a rapport with those

program.

He and his one co-worker have noted a slight increase in camps, but he wouldn't attribute that just to drug use. It's



A lot of people that camp, I'd say there's a majority that camp alone. Coun. Devon Ouellette

who live there and tries to connect them with resources through social agencies as part of the Partner Agency Liaison

an economic problem as well.

"With the economic downturn, I think that's one of the major contributors," St. Pierre



One of the homeless camps previously encountered by Kevin Watkins. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

said. "Of course, the complexities of mental health and addiction cycle are right in there as well."

But he said the increase could just as well be attributed to the two mild winters Calgary has enjoyed.

As for Inglewood, he said they don't tend to have many camps to deal with, at least not compared to other parts of the city.

"Camps are kind of everywhere, but nowhere ... some of them are hidden some of

them are a little more overt ... there's no one place camps can be defined as being," St. Pierre said.

In Inglewood, community members like Watkins would like to see more enforcement officers, and a better budget to deal with encampments.

Coun. Gian-Carlo Carra told Metro that extra cash was doled out for the past two years to help with timely clean up of the camps, which is what takes the longest in the process of moving people along.

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Aggressive coyotes force city to close green spaces

WILDLIFE

Signs warning of denning areas ignored by residents



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

If human behaviour doesn't change, the city will have to use lethal force on increasingly aggressive coyotes.

This is the warning that comes nearly a week after the city was forced to close down two city pathways in the northwest. One, in Panorama Hills, is now facing a wider closure after residents and visitors to the area didn't heed warning signs to stay away from coyotes denning in the area.

On Thursday, the city said the entire green space, including the slope and pathway between Country Hills Boulevard NW and Hidden Creek Boulevard NW, would be closed for an entire month, if not more, until it can be deemed safe by Alberta Fish and Wildlife and Calgary Parks.

"If citizens continue to ignore the marked closures and threaten the coyotes by their sheer presence, the next steps the city will have to take could be lethal for the coyotes," said Hope. "We don't want to get to that point."

The city's had official reports of more encounters, or attacks, as humans continue to close in on the wild animals' space. The coyotes have escalated their behaviour and become more aggressive.

Over the long weekend, social media lit up with more reports. Residents explained they had been walking and were at-



Social media lit up over the long weekend with reports of residents attacked by coyotes. COURTESY/ CITY OF CALGARY

tacked by coyotes — some as they walked dogs, and some without the company of an animal.

There was an incident where a small dog was attacked while on the leash and killed.

In each instance there was frustration with the city's 311 response, which directed them to Fish and Wildlife, ultimately yielding mixed results.

Months before city action in mid-April, resident Dougane Quon was walking his three dogs when a group of three coyotes cornered him.

"These were big animals," Quon said. "This seemed like more of a hunt or attack, than anything."

He said the small pack was

relentless, even as he was trying to make himself big and loud to ward them off. One of the animals came as close as two feet from him.

Finally, a nearby resident let him hop the fence and cut through their backyard to safety.

"I was pretty scared for myself and the dogs," Quon said. "There was lots of people in the neighbourhood who had encountered the coyotes the weeks before an attack on a dog ... I know two other dogs that were actually bitten."

Quon said he's skeptical a one-month closure will stop the coyotes' behaviour.

Online, some citizens are calling for a cull. But Dr. Shel-

WHO TO CALL

Reporting coyote action is encouraged through 311, but if there's an immediate danger the city asks residents to call 911.

ley Alexander, professor in the Department of Geography at the University of Calgary, said that could make the encounters worse.

"If we kill those parents right now, everyone has to be OK with the fact that those pups are probably going to die very slowly on their own," Alexander said. "If those pups are old enough, if

they're able to hunt ... we leave young pups, essentially equivalent to teenagers, to fend for themselves — they're going to learn to do the wrong thing."

From the articles and photos she's looked at online, in this case, she feels coyotes are being harassed and if residents heed the city's warning, there may be hope for the pack.

"It keeps everybody safe if we have the closure for a short period of time," Alexander said. "We learn what to do to make sure coyotes aren't becoming food-conditioned at the same time so that we can all co-exist."

She said there are other areas where den sites exist, and there's noted activity, without issues.

LOTTERY WIN

Wildfire victim's luck turns

Another Albertan who lost a home in Fort McMurray has had a change of luck, winning a luxury condo and an Italian sports car in an Edmonton hospital fundraising lottery.

Michael Marchand was shopping for flowers when a representative from the Full House Lottery phoned on Wednesday to tell him he'd won the early-bird draw.

The condo has a view of Rogers Place arena, and the car is a Maserati GranTurismo MC.

A video of Marchand being told he had won was posted on the lottery's Facebook page.

After exclaiming disbelief that the call was actually real, Marchand said that he'd lost his home last year in Fort McMurray.

Chris Flett, who lost his home in the Fort McMurray wildfire in May 2016, also came up a winner late last year, taking home more than \$400,000 in a Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation lottery.

The Full House Lottery supports the Royal Alexandra and University Hospital organizations in Edmonton.

"This is real, right?" Marchand can be heard saying over a speaker phone.

"You know, I lost my home in Fort McMurray, so this is amazing."

The revelation clearly surprised the hospital foundation representative. "Oh my goodness," she replied.

The car and condo are worth \$656,873.

The fire, nicknamed "the beast", began burning deep in the bush about May 1 and spread into the northern Alberta city on May 3, forcing 88,000 people from their homes for a month or more.

In all, almost 2,600 dwellings were destroyed.

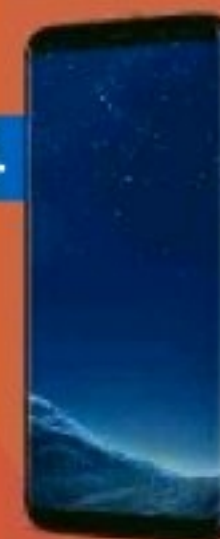
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The Alberta Investment Management Corporation (AIMCo) is co-owner of three Toronto buildings that are under rent strike, protesting a 4.5 per cent rent increase. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Rent protest in T.O. linked to Alberta

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Heritage Fund invested in several of the buildings



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

The head of the company managing properties owned by the Alberta Heritage Fund says the partnership is providing a valuable service to low-income Canadians.

Brent Merrill is president and CEO of MetCap, the property management company and co-owner of some buildings that are also co-owned by AIMCo, which manages the investments of the Alberta Heritage Fund.

"I think more pension funds and more investment companies should be investing in this type of thing," said Merrill.

"Social housing is the kind of thing where we need investment and capital to do things properly and maintain these buildings right."

Some of the tenants at three Toronto properties co-owned by MetCap and AIMCo began a rent

strike on May 1.

They're protesting a proposed rent increase of 4.5 per cent, which has yet to be approved by a tribunal that oversees controlled rent increases in the province.

They're also raising concerns about repairs not being done in a timely manner.

Merrill said he's confused by that claim, noting that they have a 7-day-a-week help line.

"Out of 1,200 units, two weeks ago we had 65 work orders outstanding. Since that time we got the work orders down to 12," he said.

He said the buildings are from the 1960s, and AIMCo has always been ready to help with unexpected costs, such as when an elevator broke down in one of the buildings.

He thinks it's a great use for public money because tenants get housing, and the public gets a return on investment.

"To me, it's what they should

be doing — putting some of the money back into building affordable housing, or in this case, taking existing buildings and trying to improve them," said Merrill.

AIMCo has \$12.4 billion in real estate investments, according to its latest annual report. Of that, 8.2 per cent is invested in residential properties.

REPORT

Act now on health care: Auditor general

Alberta's auditor general is calling for immediate action to improve a health-care system he says is still falling short despite years of recommendations on how to make it better.

Merwan Saher says too many roadblocks continue to prevent the government and health providers from working together to give people the best quality of care possible.

"Significantly better health care is within reach, and put-

ting more money into the system is not the answer," Saher wrote in a report tabled in the legislature Thursday.

"Integrated health care is the framework used by the highest-performing health systems in the world, but we need to overcome some key barriers that have prevented successive governments from establishing this kind of system."

The province forecasts it will spend \$21.4 billion on health

care this year — almost 40 per cent of its entire budget.

Saher says the system is too fragmented, physicians and other care providers don't work together enough and clinical information isn't shared efficiently.

He says health care must shift to focus on the long-term needs of patients and away from bureaucracy, the negotiating efforts of health providers or four-year election cycles.

People should have access to more information about their own health and treatment options and should be able to communicate with their care team, Saher says.

The report says members of the legislature, including cabinet ministers, should not make specific demands of the health system or intervene in matters that are the responsibility of health managers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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COURT

Jurors chosen in Saretzky trial

The jury has been selected in the trial of an Alberta man accused of killing three people.

Derek Saretzky is charged with first-degree murder in the deaths of Terry Blanchette, who was 27, his two-year-old daughter Hailley Dunbar-Blanchette and 69-year-old Hanne Meketeck.

Saretzky, who is 24, is also charged with committing an indignity to a human body in relation to Meketeck's death.

Seven women and seven men will form the jury when the trial begins June 7 in Lethbridge, but only 12 will render a verdict.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

POLICE

Suspect sought in nightclub assault

Calgary police are asking for help from the public to find a man wanted in an assault in Quebec City.

Cedrick Leblond, who is 31, is wanted on a charge of aggravated assault in an incident in a nightclub.

He's described as Caucasian, 6 feet, one inch tall, 225 pounds, with short brown hair and brown eyes.

The back of Leblond's head is heavily tattooed.

Leblond is believed to be in the Calgary area operating a business called Platinum Construction. THE CANADIAN PRESS



The city said it's still working on a sound study for 90 Avenue and Southland Drive to see if they qualify for sound barriers.

BRODIE THOMAS / METRO

No extra traffic on Ring Road, city says

INFRASTRUCTURE

Open house shows off plans for upgrades to roadways



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

The Southwest Ring Road is now under construction and on Thursday night, the city was showing residents in the southwest its plans to tie local roads into the provincial project.

Experts, with the help of dis-

play boards, spoke one-on-one with hundreds of citizens who came in to see what changes might be happening in their area.

Melanie Ducharme, senior communications specialist for the city, said people will be able to access the ring road via 90 Avenue or Anderson Road.

Southland Drive is being extended to arc up and tie into 90 Avenue, just east of where it connects to the Ring Road.

She said work on Anderson will start in July, while the other two roads won't see construction until the spring of 2018.

When it's all done, the city isn't expecting any increased traffic on Southland or 90 Avenue, according to Ducharme.



I guess they're going to build a lake somewhere else.

Bert Seinen

She said they will be used as local connectors.

That's why only Anderson is being widened to three lanes in each direction.

"If people have a choice between 90 Avenue, Southland, and Anderson — Anderson will be wider, it has fewer intersections, and the intersections are all being upgraded," she said.

However the city will be mon-

itoring closely after the project is complete to make sure traffic doesn't increase too much in these areas.

Residents Metro spoke with didn't express any concerns about increased traffic levels.

Bert Seinen, who lives near some of the planned upgrades, says his concern is with the Ring Road itself.

He said a big section of one lake will be filled in so the road can be built over top. He was told there would be compensations made for that.

"I guess they're going to build a lake somewhere else and put up signs so the frogs will know where to go? It's just silliness," he said.

CITY HALL

Nenshi OK with a pay cut

Mayor Naheed Nenshi says he's "totally fine" with a recommendation by a committee of volunteers to lower the mayor's salary by 6 per cent.

"In fact I've been saying for some years that the previous citizens' committee had set the mayor's salary too high," said Nenshi.

The committee is recommending that whoever is elected mayor in the fall take a pay cut of about \$12,123 annually. The committee also said councillor salaries — \$113,416 — should remain where they are.

Because he thought his pay was too high, Mayor Nenshi has been donating 10 per cent of his salary to charity each year.

He also said the process of setting council wages is best left under the current process, where a committee of private citizen volunteers look at wages from other cities and take into account local factors to ensure the pay is fair.

Currently, the salary level for councillors and the mayor is tied to the Alberta Average Weekly Earnings Indicator, and is adjusted annually. The committee recommended council begin voting each year to accept or decline the change, whether it be up or down.

That's the one recommendation Nenshi said he didn't agree with.

"I don't think politicians should be setting their own salaries except in extraordinary circumstances," he said.

His fear is not of councillors giving themselves raises, but instead rejecting the raises and taking the cuts for the sake of optics.

"If we trust a volunteer group to come up with the right recommendation ... let's abide by their recommendation." BRODIE THOMAS/METRO

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Candidates emerge in CBE trustee race

EDUCATION

Four entrants are all running on Students Count slate



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Four people who say they have been driven by "frustration" with the current system announced their plans to run for the upcoming Calgary Board of Education trustee elections.

Althea Adams (Wards 3/4), Bianca Smetacek (Wards 5/10), Lisa Davis (Wards 6/7) and Sabrina Bartlett (Wards 8/9) made a joint announcement Thursday as part of the Students Count slate.

"We're moving forward as a team of people who are committed to take action to ensure the strong future that our students deserve," said Davis. "By offering a common vision and specific actions to improve education we're giving parents a clear choice for



Four people have put their names forward for the upcoming trustee elections. LUCIE EDWARDSON/METRO

their children's future."

Adams, co-president of the Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils, and Lisa Davis, head of the newly formed Kids Come First, have been outspoken education advocates for a number of years, and are now throwing their hats into the ring as candidates for school board trusteeship.

The quartet share a similar focus on five key issues: dollars in the classroom, improving math skills, returning report cards to percentages, getting big money out of trustee campaigns and ensuring student mental wellness.

Smetacek said they are running on a platform to support after-school tutoring for struggling students as well as introducing a committee to monitor math progress in all Calgary schools that would report back to parents within 60 days.

Bartlett said they'd also like to see the introduction of an independent ombudsman to respond to unresolved student and parent complaints surrounding potential bullying or student conflicts.

The municipal election for both trustees and city councilors is Oct. 16.

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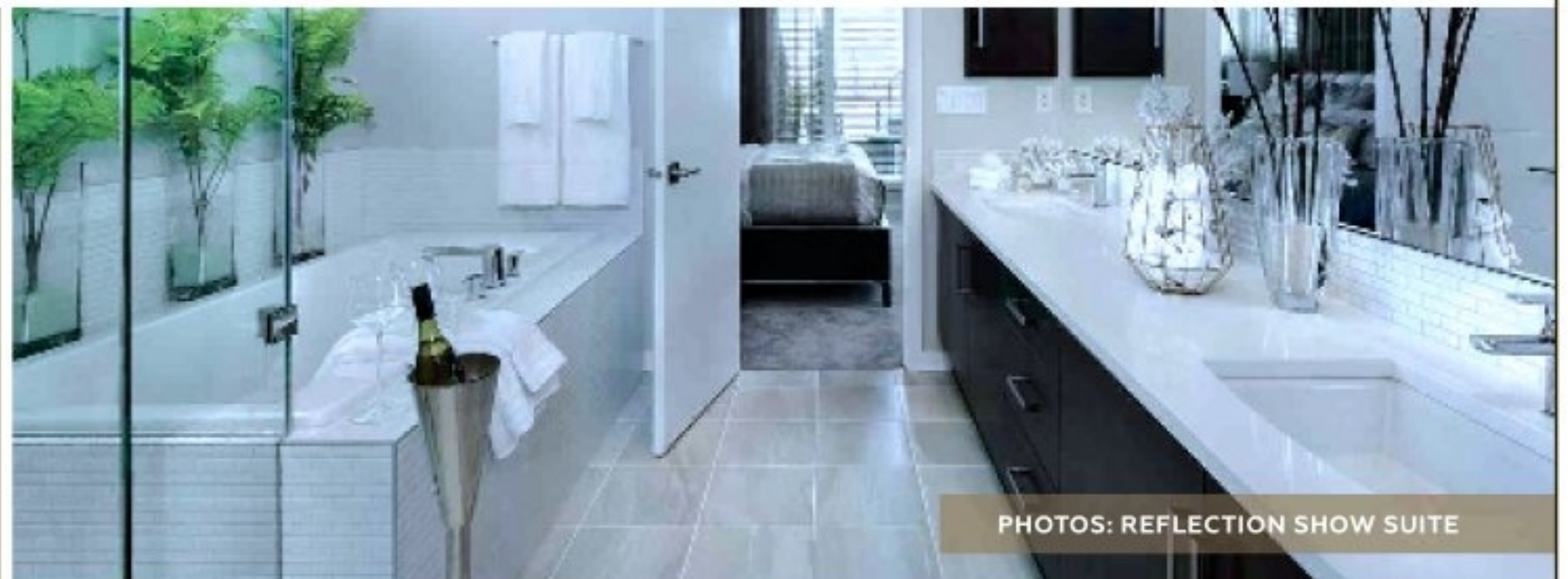
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BUILT

Biggest cities should each get an extra MLA

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

Report advises Calgary and Edmonton get one seat each

A new report says Calgary and Edmonton should each get an additional seat in the legislature and some rural ridings should be folded together.

The Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission makes the recommendation in an interim report released Thursday.

The commission chaired by Justice Myra Bielby of the Alberta Court of Appeal is working to update the province's political map for the 2019 election.

The report says the province should continue to have 87 constituencies, but some need to be changed to reflect a growing population in some urban areas.

"In the last eight years Alberta has seen a huge increase in population," Bielby said. "More than 600,000 people moved into our province ... but those 600,000 people didn't move equally into each of the 87 constituencies."

The report also recommends creating a new riding north of Calgary to account for growth in Airdrie and Cochrane.

To deal with the urban increase, the commission is calling for four ridings to be consoli-

dated into three in the central northeast that would affect Fort McMurray-Conklin, Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater, Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville and Bonnyville-Cold Lake.

Five ridings — Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre, West Yellowhead, Drayton Valley-Devon, Whitecourt-St. Anne and Stony Plain — would be rolled into four north and west of Edmonton.

Seven electoral divisions

would be consolidated into six along the east side of the province. This would involve Battle River-Wainwright, Drumheller-Stettler, Strathmore-Brooks, Little Bow, Cardston-Taber-Warner, Cypress-Medicine Hat and Vermilion-Lloydminster.

Currently the governing NDP is strongest in Edmonton and Calgary and the Opposition Wildrose has much of its power base in rural areas. Many rural ridings cover a much bigger geographical

area than urban constituencies.

Wildrose critic Nathan Cooper said the party has serious concerns and does not support the report's recommendations.

He said the commission is paying too much attention to population and not enough on effective representation.

The report recommends the new ridings be called Calgary North East, Edmonton South and Airdrie-Cochrane.

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The slide at St. Patrick's Island has been removed from the playground. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

CHILD SAFETY

Playground shut down for repairs

A popular Calgary playground has been forced to close for improvements because the sun is making metal slides too hot for kids to handle.

Slides on the south-facing side of the playground are getting so heated that they reportedly singed a child.

The play structure was opened just two years ago on St. Patrick's Island, but now it's closed for the \$100,000 renovation.

Shades had been installed to keep the metal cool, but they ended up being used as hammocks.

The facelift will focus on adding more shade, more seating and additional bike racks.

The metal slides are to be

replaced with concrete ones in a new location.

"The reality is sometimes you get these things wrong, and that's OK."

"The issue is to address it and tell the public what it is you are doing," said Susan Veres with the Calgary Municipal Land Corp.

"Because of the volume of people that use that park, concrete is more durable and we won't have to worry about hot slides."

The cost of renovating the playground is to be covered by taxpayers in the neighbourhood.

The revamped park is set to open June 3.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The reality is sometimes you get these things wrong, and that's OK. The issue is to address it.
Susan Veres

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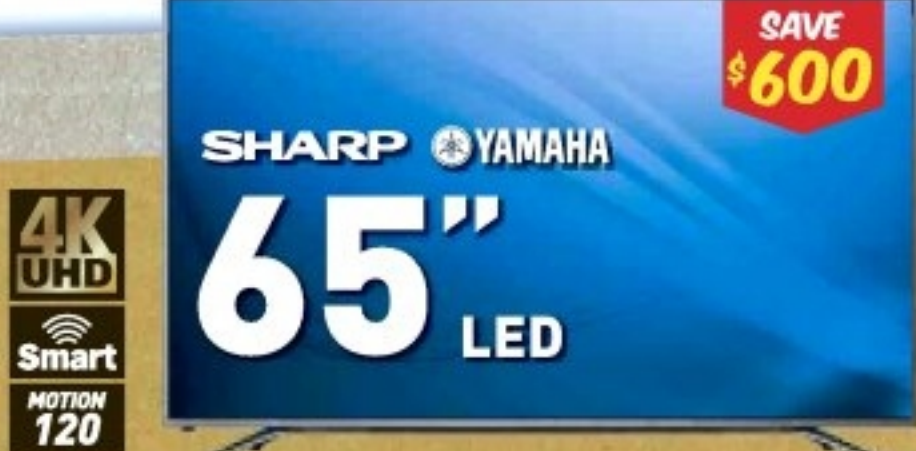
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APPEAL

Man who tortured roommate won't get his day in top court

An Alberta man who tortured and starved his roommate is not getting a chance to appeal his conviction before Canada's top court.

The Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed Dustin Paxton's request to challenge a 2016 ruling from the Alberta Court of Appeal which upheld a guilty verdict of aggravated assault and sexual

assault.

The Supreme Court, as usual, did not list reasons for its decision.

Paxton was convicted in 2012 for the prolonged and brutal abuse of a man who was his friend and roommate. He was designated a dangerous offender and is serving an indeterminate jail sentence.

The victim was dropped

off, near death, at a Regina hospital in April 2010.

He was emaciated, battered and bleeding.

In its November 2016 ruling, the Alberta Appeal Court upheld the convictions and said there was no evidence to suggest that the victim was consenting to sexual contact with Paxton.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Local stars to help Ring in our 150th

CANADA'S 150TH

Tegan & Sara to headline Riverfront show on July 1



Jennifer Friesen
For Metro | Calgary

As Canada nears its 150th birthday, Calgary is prepping to take the national party to next level status.

According to Mayor Naheed Nenshi, Calgary's upcoming Canada Day celebration will be the biggest the city's ever seen.

"(This will be) one of the best celebrations in the city ever," he continued. "Something your grandkids will remember. Forget the cottage - bring the family, come downtown for Canada Day."

Nenshi announced the city's official line-up of festivities on Thursday, which will start at 9 a.m. on July 1.

Following a pancake breakfast at Confederation Park, the 1967 time capsule will be opened, and then 4,000 red-and-white-clad Calgarians will gather at Fort Calgary to create a human flag.

The festivities will run throughout the city all day, from an Indigenous showcase and powwow at Prince's Island Park to a gathering of 1,500 guitarists at Olympic Plaza performing 'Four Strong Winds' by Ian Tyson.

"Or, as I like to call it, Alberta's provincial anthem," said Nenshi.



Forget the cottage — bring the family, come downtown for Canada Day. Mayor Naheed Nenshi



Mayor Naheed Nenshi announced Thursday the city's plans for Canada's 150th birthday celebration at Prince's Island Park. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

As the day draws to a close, Calgary's Tegan and Sara will headline a concert at Riverfront Avenue, with lead-up acts including Michael Bernard Fitzgerald, Crystal Plamondon and Armond Duck Chief. The evening will be capped off by a 30-minute fireworks display on the Centre Street Bridge.

With 250,000 people expected to attend the events, Nenshi said he's confident in the city's security.

"Usually most of our safety

issues have to do with crowds and traffic and management, but of course we are ready for any eventuality," he said, adding that the police and Public Safety Unit will be on hand.

MP Kent Hehr joined in the announcement on Thursday, adding that diversity will be a main point of celebration in the city this year.

"This is an opportunity for us to recognize how far we've come as a nation and understand that we're going to go forward together," said Hehr. "To build a better place of welcome, of freedom, of religion, of freedom, of coming together and building our community."

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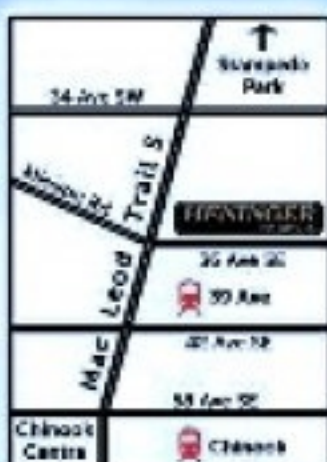
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BUDGET

Ward funding equity pitched by Pincott

Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

On Monday, council will debate the merits of a notice of motion drafted by Coun. Brian Pincott. In his motion, Pincott is requesting that the Coordinating Committee of Councillor's Office look into how each office is funded and find a "more equitable" budget allocation.

Although Pincott won't be managing the Ward 11 port-

folio again next year, he said it's important that the next council at least cast a keen eye to how much some areas need to stretch their cash to give residents fair access to resources.

His area is going from 19 community associations to 24 with the new Ward boundary changes coming into effect in October 2017. "Councillors with more community associations are going to be at a significant disadvantage," said Pincott.

Councillors with more community associations are going to be at a disadvantage.

Coun. Brian Pincott

He said each community association meets once a month and his office attends those

meetings, which he calls a full-time job. He's also concerned with the council initiative fund, a \$10,000 pot community associations can apply to for events, which in his ward is always stretched thin.

"As we have more community associations doing more events, which is exactly what we want, building community," said Pincott, adding that he's started taking money out of his council budget for community events.



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Barbara Saunders makes a prayer flag for her son, Merlin, who died from an accidental fentanyl overdose in December 2016.

ELIZABETH CAMERON/FOR METRO

OD casualties remembered

DRUGS

Families in city honour the 559 who died from opioids in 2016



Elizabeth Cameron
For Metro | Calgary

Calgarians left behind by fatal overdoses last year came together to remember their loved ones on Wednesday, just one week after the province released staggering new numbers on the crisis.

Last year, 559 people died in our province from drug overdoses, according to the latest report from Alberta Health, which said 363 of those Albertans died from a fentanyl-related overdose and 196 from other opioids, such as codeine.

Fentanyl is a potent opioid that is often prescribed for pain and commonly replicated on the street with even more dangerous analogues.

The group gathered at Hillhurst United Church and made a Tibetan-inspired

prayer flag for each person who died.

"The idea is, you hang them and the threads come off one-by-one in the wind, and those thoughts and hopes are taken to the person you've created the flag for," said Rosalind Davis, co-founder of Changing the Face of Addiction (CFA), which organized the event.

Barbara Saunders drove from Vancouver to be at the event and visit her son's girlfriend, Alex, who moved to Calgary when he died from a fentanyl overdose in December 2016.

"It wasn't his regular using that killed him, it was fentanyl — he didn't know," Saunders said as she painted a prayer flag for her son. "It's the last thing we ever expected to happen to us."

She said Merlin had been clean for months, but unknowingly took fentanyl during a relapse.

"He wanted nothing more than to be free of it and have a normal life," Saunders said.

When she heard the event was on May 25, Saunders said she knew she had to come — it would have been Merlin's 27th birthday.

It's the last thing we ever expected to happen to us

Barbara Saunders, who lost her son Merlin to an accidental fentanyl overdose in late 2016

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Citysleep wakes festival lineup

SLED ISLAND

Calgary indie band joins the event for the first time



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

According to their bio on this year's Sled Island Festival page, Calgary's Citysleep cut through an ethereality of chilled beats and spacey production with hauntingly pure vocal harmonies.

"I don't know who wrote that Sled Island bio, but it's fantastic," laughed Citysleep frontman Jerrick Dela Rosa. "We didn't put any of that in there, so that means they actually listened to our music, which is really cool."

Having formed only a year ago, the Calgary electronic band have had their work cut out for them.

They're an indie group trying to make it in a sea of other indie groups, vying for shows,



Citysleep consists of Kyle Donauer, Dexter Mabanta, Jae Sterling, Mico Javier and Jerrick Dela Rosa. COURTESY CITYSLEEP

releasing music online and doing whatever they can to get their name above the rest.

"It's crazy how much music is coming out these days," said Dela Rosa. "You kind of

question, well, how much work did I put into this? But, at the end of the day ... it's

hard, and it's time consuming to get your head straight and keep focused."

Momentum really picked up for the group after they released an EP in November, which led to a slew of shows.

Between writing songs, performing shows, and still managing to go out and support others in the local music scene, the band decided to slip in an application for Sled Island.

"Oh man. It's always been a dream of mine, since I started pursuing music," he said.

"I've been a fan and wanted to play Sled Island numerous times, but never really applied because I never felt ready. But now, with this project I'm working on with some really close friends on the same page as I am, and I was like, OK, this is it."

It also helped that this year's guest curator is Flying Lotus, a well known producer in the hip hop world. With his own unique tastes, Citysleep figured they be a perfect fit for this year's festival — and they were right.

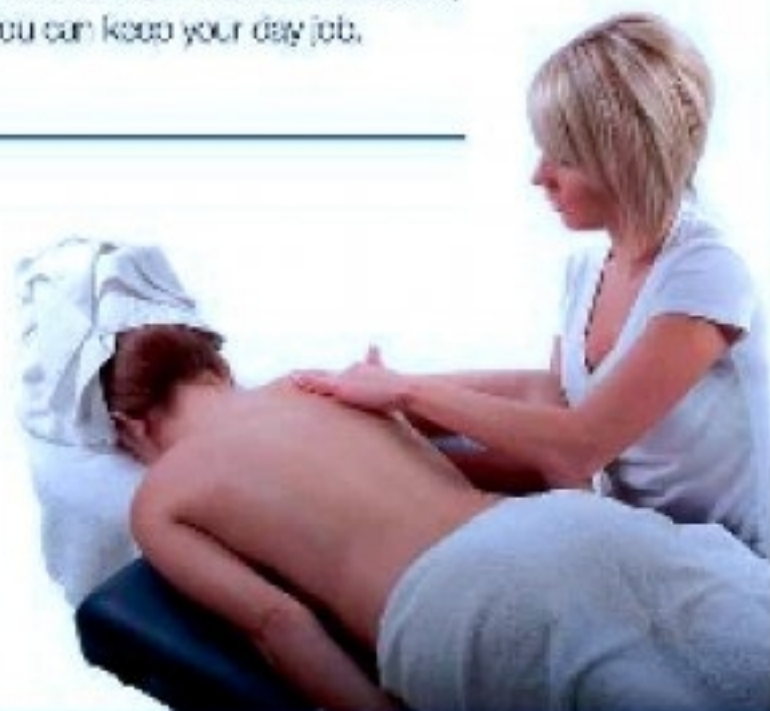
You can catch them June 21 at the HiFi Club. For the full Sled Island schedule, visit www.sledisland.com.

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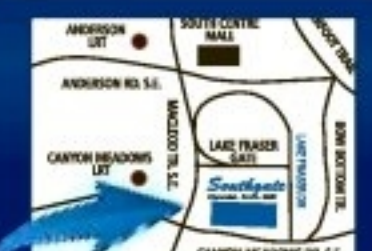
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WEEKEND EVENTS

After-hours party, style showcase and snakes

FRIDAY

NMC After Hours

For its final after-hours party of the season, the National Music Centre is open late with the party running through its multiple floors. There will be live-band karaoke, a number of DJs (including Smalltown DJs and Mollyfi), popup bars and games. The event will go on hiatus until September after this night.

For more information, visit StudioBell.ca

SATURDAY

Children's Festival

Imagination ignites at the annual Calgary International Children's Festival. Taking place at Arts Commons downtown, Saturday is the final day of the four-day festival. There are performances tailored directly to children, which includes Grammy Award winners.

For more information, visit calgarykidsfest.ca

SATURDAY

Parkshow

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For more information, visit ourparkonline.com

SUNDAY

Reptile Expo

Ssssooo, you've got a thing for ssssnakes, hey? Or if you'd prefer a little less ssslithering, there are lizards, geckos and more at the annual Calgary Reptile Expo. It's the biggest reptile and amphibian show in Calgary, with more than 30 vendors and tons of opportunity for education, and responsible care.

For more information, visit albertareptilesociety.org

AARON CHATHA/METRO



Lawrence Wolf is one of the featured comics at this year's Funny Fest in Calgary. COURTESY LAWRENCE WOLF

Playing to no one

Q&A

Comedian Lawrence Wolf shares best and worst shows



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Get ready to howl with laughter — comedian Lawrence Wolf is joining the Funny Fest lineup this year. The self-reflective Indigenous comic talks about being adopted by a traditional German Baptist family, and his own late coming of age.

Funny Fest runs from June 1 to 9. Visit funnyfest.com for more info.

What's the best and what's the worst show you've ever played?

A: Best show? Well, my favourite was my first theatre show at Funnyfest in Calgary in about 2012 or so. It was the nicest place I'd ever performed and the first time I was really proud to invite my family to a show.

Worst show? Fairview, Alberta. There was literally zero audience. Just me, the other comic and the bartender. But they wanted us to do the show in case

people came in. So we did an hour-long show. The mic was hard-wired into speakers in the ceiling and there was fake reverb on the channel because it was used for their karaoke nights — which I heard were awesome.

Tell me about the hard work that goes into making a living as an actual standup comic?

Nothing creates quality material like writing down ideas, hashing them out to nobody. Trying them in front of open mic crowds, failing miserably over and over until you get a punch line that's funny more than once. For me, I sort of built my set up five minutes at a time. It seemed to take forever to build a 15-minute set, but I'd say it took me about five years before I was strong enough to really hold 15 minutes.

What's your favourite pickup line?

My best pickup line? I'm not allowed to use those anymore! I'm way too shy to say anything designed to pick up someone. And according to my younger sister Clarissa, I wouldn't catch on if a lady was into me anyway. I'm super awkward!

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Roberta Segar



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www.skinpossible.ca/blog/519-fotona-4d

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The Smoked Stuffed Smitty and the Swiss Chocolate Chunk are just two of the epic burgers available during YYC Burger Battle. COURTESY YYC BURGER BATTLE

First battle of the burgers kicks off

EATING OUT

Competition attracts 54 unique entries to chew on



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Let's not mince words here — you mustard heard by now about the epic throwdown in Cowtown.

The first YYC Burger Battle officially launches this weekend, with 54 unique burgers to chew into throughout the city.

"We just love eating burgers, and we think Calgary does too," said organizer Bernice Hill. "We want to highlight that Calgary's a cow town, and burgers reinforce that."

There are some tasty com-

petitors this year.

First off, there are a number of stuffed burgers around town, like Hayden Block's Smoked Stuffed Smitty. The burger has a seven-ounce ground chuck, stuffed with two ounces of Brie cheese, onions, apples and pecans. It makes for one thick patty.

For the sweet tooth, Wurst is offering a Swiss Chocolate Chunk burger, with a chilli cocoa BBQ glaze and caramelized chocolate braised French onions.

If you really want to test the limits of your stomach, try Trolley 5's Macky Mac & The Funky Bunch. The burger includes two (count 'em, two!) beef burger patties, topped with deep fried mac and cheese, a smoked Al-

berta beef brisket and your choice of side.

On the flip-side, veggie lovers can enjoy the Classic Millionaire at Veg-In Café. It has a crispy samosa and black bean patty, inspired by street food, burger-pile and smashed styles.

Then there are so many more unconventional styles,

from black buns and pizza burgers to turnips, wild boar and oat breakfast burgers.

And to assuage any potential burger guilt, 15 per cent of all burger sales will go to Kids Up Front

and Grow Calgary.

For the complete burger list, check out <http://www.yycburgerbattle.com>.

The battle rages from Friday to June 4.

“We want to highlight that Calgary's a cow town, and burgers reinforce that.”
Bernice Hill, organizer

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CELEBRATING THREE OF CALGARY'S MOTORCYCLE PIONEERS



Nigel Wright, former Chief of Staff to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, leaves the courthouse after his testimony at the trial of Mike Duffy on Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2015. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wright breached conflict rules: Report

POLITICS

Harper's top aide was in ethical wrong, says watchdog

Stephen Harper's former top aide, Nigel Wright, was never charged with a criminal offence, but his efforts to repay \$90,000 of Mike Duffy's Senate expenses were a breach of federal conflict rules, according to a new report.

More than a year after an Ontario criminal court acquitted Duffy in the Senate expenses affair, and four years after the federal Ethics and Conflict of Interest Commissioner began and suspended her investigation, Mary Dawson finally reported Thursday

on Wright's role.

She fingered Harper's former chief of staff for ethical blame on two fronts — when he pressed the Conservative party to repay Duffy's bill, and when he decided to do so himself.

Dawson concluded Wright broke the rules for public office holders that prohibited him from making decisions that would further another person's private interests — Duffy's — and barred him from influencing the decisions of anyone else, such as the Conservative party's chief bagman Irving Gerstein, to further Duffy's interests.

There is no penalty for violating those two sections of the act.

"The only sanction is the negative publicity resulting from the release of the exam-

ination report," her office said Thursday.

Dawson's report is a politically difficult one for the Conservative Party as it struggles to move on from the Harper era, and a personally difficult one for Wright, now a London-based financier.

"My intention throughout was to ensure that the taxpayer was repaid for Sen. Duffy's expenses. I have always believed, and still believe, that my effort to get those funds repaid was in the public interest.

"We'll take the time to review and understand the report," said Wright in a statement issued Thursday by his lawyers.

Wright was never charged for making a payment to Duffy, though Duffy was charged and acquitted of accepting a bribe.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

PUBLIC HEALTH

Mayors call for action on opioids



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

Canada's big city mayors want tangible action taken in the country's fight against the opioid crisis, and they want the federal government to take the lead.

Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson said the country needs a clear road map for fighting the crisis that includes targets for reducing overdoses and fatalities and regular reporting on relevant statistics.

"We want to make sure the federal government pulls together an action table that treats this

like a national emergency," said Robertson. He said all levels of government can help, but the federal government needs to be at the table ensuring the work gets done.

Robertson led a task force of mayors from across the country.

In addition to some of the measures the government has already brought in, the mayors are calling for more opioid substitution programs and better data on the crisis.

Robertson said that while British Columbia — where the crisis has been most pronounced — is tracking numbers, not all parts of the country are doing the same. Ontario released new data on

opioid fatalities this week, but the most recent data is almost a year behind.

The federal government has taken some of the steps the mayors called for, including most recently passing legislation that reduces the wait time for approval of a supervised-consumption site.

Health Minister Jane Philpott's press secretary Andrew MacKendrick said the minister is prepared to do more.

"We are in a national public health crisis in Canada. Minister Philpott is committed to using every lever at her disposal to combat this crisis," MacKendrick said.

WITH FILES FROM JEN ST. DENIS/METRO

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Queen Elizabeth visits survivors

BRITAIN

Teens recovering from shrapnel wounds chat with monarch

The Queen met Thursday with children injured in the Manchester concert bombing, consoling them and pronouncing the attack at an event attended by so many young people "wicked."

The 91-year-old monarch visited Evie Mills, 14, Millie Robson, 15, and other youngsters recovering from severe shrapnel wounds at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital.

"It's dreadful. Very wicked, to target that sort of thing," the Queen told Evie and her parents.

Millie, wearing an Ariana Grande T-shirt, told the Queen she had won VIP tickets to the pop star's Monday night concert at Manchester Arena and had been injured in the bombing attack after the end of the show. The teenager said she felt fortunate to have survived.

"I have a few, like, holes in my legs and stuff, and I have a bit of a cut, and my arm and just a bit here, but compared to other people I'm quite lucky



The Queen speaks to Millie Robson, 15, and her mother, Marie, as she visits survivors in hospital. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

really," she said.

The Queen broke her normal custom of wearing a matching outfit by visiting the children in a blue coat topped with a jaunty orange hat — as if to try to lighten the gloom. Elizabeth told Millie she thought Ariana Grande was a "very good singer," adding, "She sounds very, very good."

Millie was one of 12 children under the age of 16 taken to Royal Manchester Children's

Hospital by ambulance after the blast that killed 22 people and the suspected bomber.

She said she was walking toward the exit to meet her father when the bomb went off. She remembers the explosion, an intense ringing in her ears, and people screaming. Millie didn't know it right away, but she was bleeding badly from her legs.

"My dad ran over to me and picked me up and then like, we

tied jumpers (sweaters) and stuff around the main wounds in my leg," she recalled Thursday. "He just picked me and we ran outside and then a lot of paramedics outside and strangers were just helping us, really."

It was a parent's nightmare. Her father, David Robson, said he was with his partner waiting for Millie when the explosion happened.

"It was surreal, it was just

quiet," Robson said. "And I saw Millie, at the bottom of the stairs, I just ran down, picked her up."

He was running from the scene when he noticed her bleeding legs. They used a sweater and a shirt to try to staunch the flow and keep her alive. Emergency teams eventually helped treat Millie and got her to the hospital. She was well enough Thursday to enjoy the Queen's visit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATTACK

Bomber said to have pleaded 'forgive me'

The alleged culprit in a deadly concert bombing was driven by what he saw as unjust treatment of Arabs in Britain, a relative said Thursday, confirming he made a final phone call in which he pleaded: "Forgive me."

Salman Abedi was particularly upset by the killing last year of a Muslim friend whose death he believed went unnoticed by "infidels" in the U.K., said the relative, speaking on condition of anonymity over concerns for her own security.

"Why was there no outrage for the killing of an Arab and a Muslim in such a cruel way?" she asked. "Rage was the main reason" for the blast that killed 22 at the end of an Ariana Grande concert, she said. The new insight into Abedi's motivation came as Britons faced stepped-up security, authorities pushed forward with raids and the investigation extended across Europe into Libya. The number of arrests in the U.K. ticked up to eight as began begin patrols on some trains because of an increased threat of terrorism.

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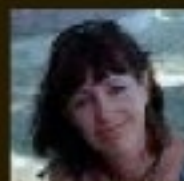
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Fighting intensifies in Marawi

PHILIPPINES

44 have died in the fighting and thousands are fleeing

Backed by tanks and rocket-firing helicopters, Philippine troops launched "precision attacks" Thursday to clear extremists inspired by Daesh from a city that has been under siege since a raid that failed to capture one of Asia's most-wanted militants.

Rebels have torn through the streets of Marawi since Tuesday night, torching buildings, taking a priest and his worshippers hostage and sealing off much of the city. The violence forced thousands to flee and raised fears of growing extremism in the country.

At least 44 people have died in the fighting, including 31 militants and 11 soldiers, officials said. President Rodrigo Duterte said a local police chief was stopped at a militant checkpoint and beheaded, and another policeman was also reportedly killed.



Soldiers fire at enemy positions while they try to clear Marawi of armed militants one street at a time on May 25. Gun battles between Daesh-linked militants and Filipino troops erupted in the city on Tuesday. GETTY IMAGES

It was not immediately clear whether civilians were among the dead.

"At night we can hear the gunfire," said Mohammad Usman, who watched from

his home just outside Marawi as thousands of residents streamed out of the city. "I'm just praying that the bullets will not find their way to my house and hit us. I hope that

the bombs will not land nearby and harm us."

Duterte imposed 60 days of martial law Tuesday on the island of Mindanao, which encompasses the southern third

of the nation and is home to 22 million people. Marawi has a population of around 200,000.

Duterte warned he may expand martial law nationwide, an unnerving development for many in the Philippines who lived through the rule of Ferdinand Marcos. Marcos declared martial law in 1972 and used it to maintain his grip on power for more than a decade.

The man at the centre of the Marawi violence is Isnilon Hapilon, an Arabic-speaking Islamic preacher known for his expertise in commando assaults. He is at the nexus of several militant groups that are trying to merge into a more powerful force.

Hapilon, who is a commander of the Abu Sayyaf militant group, pledged allegiance to Daesh in 2014. He also heads an alliance that includes at least 10 smaller militant groups, including the Maute, which have a heavy presence in Marawi and were instrumental in fighting off government forces in this week's battles.

All these groups are inspired by Daesh, but so far there is no sign of significant, material ties. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED STATES

Court deals blow to travel ban

President Donald Trump's revised travel ban "speaks with vague words of national security, but in context drips with religious intolerance, animus and discrimination," a federal appeals court said Thursday in ruling against the ban that targets six Muslim-majority countries.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a lower court ruling that blocks the Republican administration from temporarily suspending new visas for people from Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen.

The Richmond, Virginia-based 4th Circuit is the first appeals court to rule on the revised travel ban, which Trump's administration had hoped would avoid the legal problems that the first version encountered.

In all, 10 of the 13 judges who heard the case voted against the Trump administration.

The Supreme Court would almost certainly step into the case if asked. The justices almost always have the final say when a lower court strikes down a federal law or presidential action. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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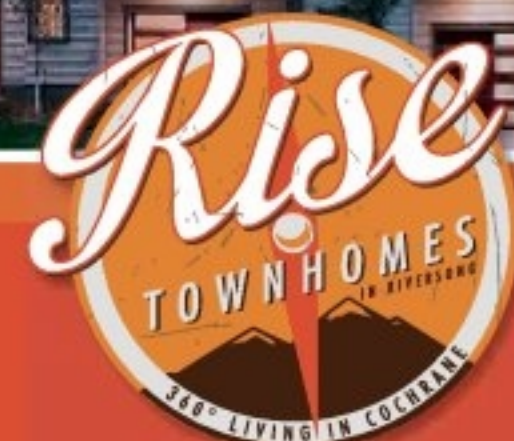


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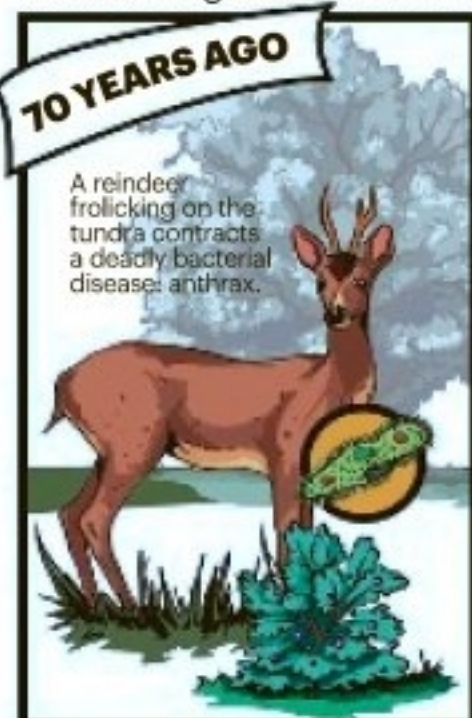
Your essential science news

Doggone sneaky: An Australian public health expert signed up his dog Dr. Olivia Doll to edit seven medical journals to prove it's far too easy

DECODED by Genna Buck and Andrés Plana

UH-OH, UH-OH, STAYIN' ALIVE

Could the climate-change supervillain be set to strike again? Vast numbers of bacteria and viruses are currently stuck safely away in glaciers and permanently frozen ground at the planet's poles. Most are friendly. But as the Earth warms, we could see the return of banished foes and brand-new enemies we have no defences against. Seems like science fiction, but it's already happening. And next time could be much worse.



A reindeer frolicking on the tundra contracts a deadly bacterial disease: anthrax.



As the weather gets hotter, glaciers and permafrost melt, releasing microbes into the nearby waterways and food supply.

As humans encroach on Arctic environments, this could spell disaster: A 12-year-old Siberian boy died in 2016 after a heat wave released 70-year-old anthrax bacteria from those reindeer buried in permafrost.

FINDINGS Your week in science



BAD BEACH BUDDY

What looks like a cross between a penguin and a great white shark and is the size of a school bus? **Luskhan itilensis**, a brand new species of plesiosaur, an aquatic dinosaur nearly perfectly preserved for 130 million years within the banks of Russia's Volga River. It has four large flippers, a five-foot skull, and powerful jaws that made it the dominant predator in its day. Itilensis has a slender snout like a river dolphin's, proving this tribe of sea monsters is diverse.

SOUND SMART



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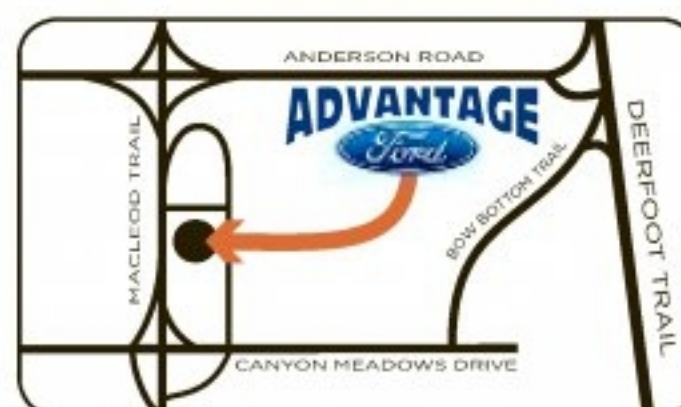
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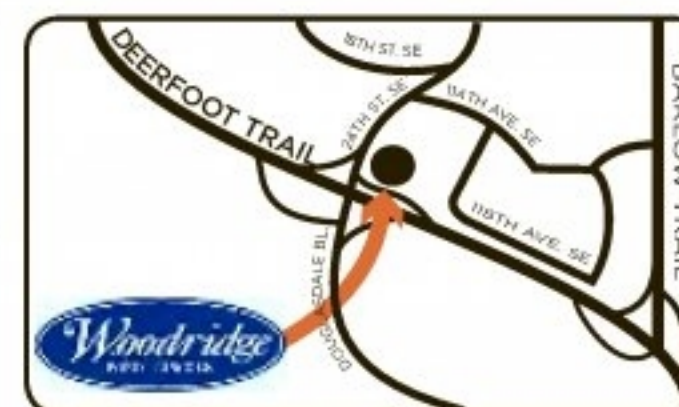


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MOVIES MUSIC TELEVISION DIGITAL

War Machine an 'emotional journey'

INTERVIEW

Topher Grace talks his latest project, made for Netflix

**Richard
Crouse**

For Metro Canada



Topher Grace doesn't need me to put words in his mouth, but in this one instance I'm going to.

I recently sat down with the former *That '70s Show* star to talk about his new Netflix movie, *War Machine*. Based on the Michael Hastings New York Times bestseller *The Operators*, it fictionalizes the real-life career implosion of General Stanley McChrystal, Commander, U.S. Forces Afghanistan. An article in *Rolling Stone* that reported on the McChrystal's disappointment with Obama and his policies undid the General's distinguished career. In the film, he is renamed Gen. Glen McMahon and played by Brad Pitt, who also produced the film.

"What I love so much about the film [director and writer David Michôd] made," said Grace, "and it was in the script but I really felt it when I saw the film, is the emotional journey. That is so hard to get into a war movie. Anyone who is willing to watch it understands it on an emotional level, which is a much more effective way to communicate to the audience than just using facts."

Here's where I chime in. "I

think that when you have a very specific story it can become universal because of the emotions," I said. "None of us will find ourselves in that particular situation but all of us, at some time in our lives, will end up in a mess of some kind. It's relatable."

"That's what I meant to say," said Grace with a laugh. "Can you quote yourself and use that?"

Consider it done.

Grace plays Matt Little, McMahon's civilian press adviser. He's young, brash, and, according to Grace, not the sharpest knife in the drawer.

"What is the definition of an idiot?" he asks. "Is it knowing you don't know but still going ahead anyway? I don't think it is, but that's who he is."

"On the first day, I popped my collar up and the military advisor said, 'They don't do that in the military.' The director said, 'No, no, no! He's playing an idiot. He would totally have his collar popped up.' He's a civilian and he doesn't even really care about the war going on."

The 38-year-old actor says despite the story's timely nature and the inclusion of a character based on recently disgraced National Security Advisor Mike Flynn, the film isn't political.

"I want people to check their politics at the door and take the emotional ride of what it would feel like to be in that position."

"The really cool thing is that it is not an American telling the story. David is a great talent out of Australia and no matter what, he brings a non-American POV. The fact that it can be that heightened in terms of humour

at some points and so real when they are out on the battlefield is really great. He told me he wanted to make a war film before Brad's company sent him the book but he

couldn't think of a way to do a war film that didn't glorify war. This does not glorify war."

It may not be political but Grace says it is timely.

"We made it in Obama's America," he explained. "It's crazy releasing it now. It is timelier than when we shot it. I haven't been on a lot of projects that were like that."



**I want people to
check their politics
at the door.**

Topher Grace



Topher Grace stars as a fictionalised version of former U.S. General Stanley McChrystal in *War Machine*, a movie he says is far more than a standard war film. TORSTAR

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Baywatch	★★★
Pirates of the Caribbean:	
Dead Men Tell No Tales	★★★
Paris Can Wait	★★
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Brad Pitt has 'nothing to hide'

INTERVIEW

Pitt opens up about his drinking and his film future

In a recent interview, Brad Pitt spoke to The Associated Press about his new film, War Machine, in which he plays a slightly fictionalized version of Gen. Stanley McChrystal; stepping back into the limelight for the first time since Angelina Jolie Pitt filed for divorce from him; and his future in movies. Here are excerpted highlights:

On acknowledging his drinking problem

I've got no secrets. I've got nothing to hide. We're human and I find the human condition very interesting. If we're not talking about it, then we're not getting better.

On why his character isn't named Gen. Stanley McChrystal

We had no interest in impugning General McChrystal

or any of his guys. For me, the problem is more systematic. And the impetus for me was a visit to Walter Reed. Although those young men and women who are absolutely heroic in a very harrowing situation, their lives are forever changed and so are their families. It just really made me question who is spending this currency of dedication. Who's writing the check? Who's making the order?

On sending more troops to Afghanistan

Nothing that we've ever done has said that more troops are going to do anything but cause any more damage, more loss of life and limb. So why are we not questioning this? It seems time for some kind of hearing. I don't trust a governmental hearing. It needs to come from the people.

We talk a lot about supporting our troops but I think supporting our troops is much more than giving them money and a pat on the back. I think it's being responsible to how we use that ultimate



Brad Pitt plays a fictionalized Gen. Stanley McChrystal in War Machine. FRANCOIS DUHAMEL/FOR NETFLIX

dedication.

I guess it's this idea of American exceptionalism that I question the definition of. We are exceptional in so

many ways. But it doesn't mean we can just throw might at any problem. We're sending them into a culture that we don't understand.

On Netflix and War Machine

It wouldn't have gotten made without Netflix. The reality for the studios is it just doesn't make sense for them

on paper. They can take the gamble up to \$35 million on a risky film. And then otherwise they focus on big tent-poles which seem to be safer and make the big payoffs. It's not their fault in any way. The numbers just don't run for them. Now with Netflix and other entities like Netflix, it becomes a whole new delivery system for these kinds of films I prefer to gamble on. For us, it's opened up a whole new world of possibilities. I'll stick to work with studios, I'll always do that, at least I think so, as long as they're around. Because they are still films that deserve to have the big-screen, cultural experience.

On Best Picture winner Moonlight

That's what I'm most proud of. That's Barry Jenkins' — and the cast and crew — that's their vision, but to be able to help get it over the hill — a difficult movie, a challenging film like that, that feels good. That feels really good. I like that job.

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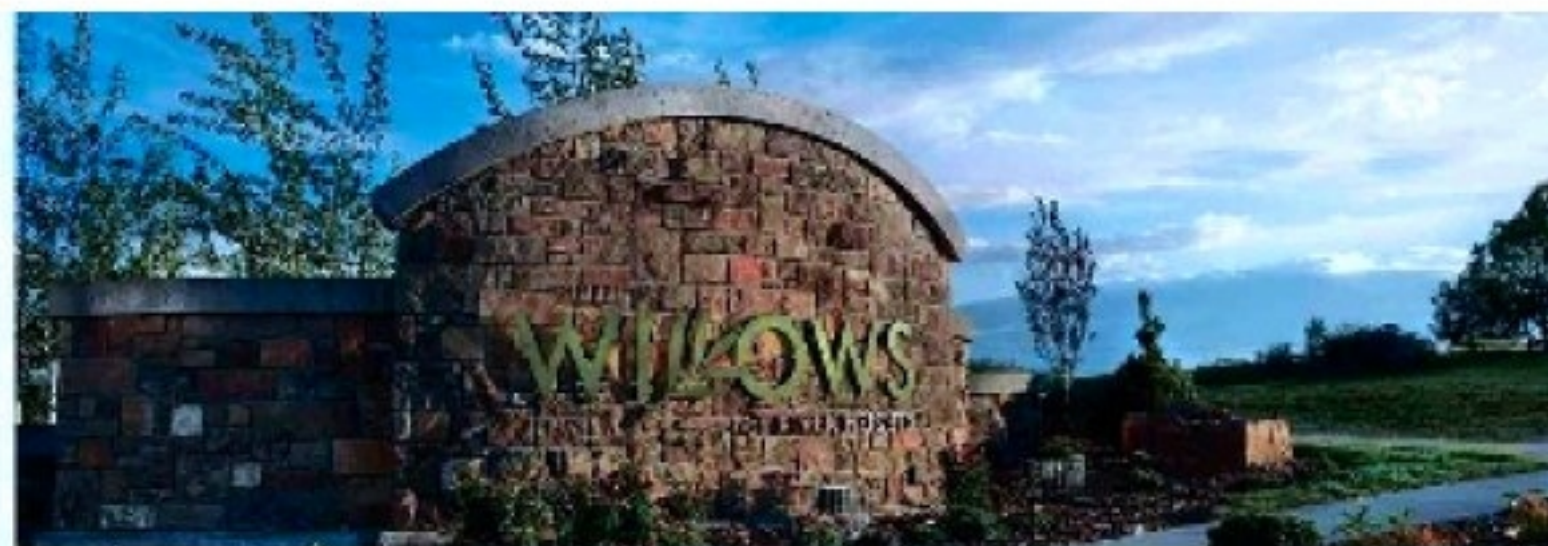
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In *Baywatch*, villainous Victoria Leeds (Priyanka Chopra), a club owner whose ambitions for Emerald Bay include some very sinister side activities. FRANK MASI/PARAMOUNT PICTURES VIA AP

Even The Rock's biceps can't lift up Baywatch

MOVIES

Lacklustre comedy falls mostly flat

Of this, dear moviegoer, rest assured: Dwayne Johnson's biceps still ripple and glisten in the sunlight. So do his triceps, pecs, abs, delts, quads, lats and the other 600 or so muscles of the human body.

And that charismatic, multi-million dollar grin? Still there, too. But the dude isn't a magician. And only a true magician could find a way to make something light and fun and fresh out of the unwieldy, derivative and mostly unfunny endeavour that is *Baywatch*.

Now, maybe the filmmakers weren't thinking light and fun and fresh. They opted to make an R-rated film, upping the raunch factor of the '90s TV series starring David Hasselhoff and a slo-mo running Pamela Anderson. But the R rating doesn't mean

they've gone all dark and deep; it just seems to mean lots of raunchy language, humping gags and extended crotch shots. That last category includes a centerpiece scene in which our two leading men, Johnson and Zac Efron, play around with a penis on a corpse in a morgue. Yes, that's actually what they do.

Let's try to wipe that image out of our brains now, shall we? *Baywatch*, directed by Seth Gordon, begins by establishing the heart and brawn of our main guy, Mitch Buchannon, leader of the Baywatch squad and hometown hero. We see him hurtling into the water to save a kitesurfer from certain death. Running along the beach, he ducks into a basketball game to expertly block a shot. He passes an adoring beachgoer building an elaborate sand sculpture of him.

But his PR-obsessed boss needs to embellish the *Baywatch* brand, so he brings in a new guy - Matt Brody (Efron), a gold-medal Olympic swimmer who has a bit of an attitude problem (any

resemblance to Ryan Lochte, including mouth grill, is totally intentional.) It seems that after a night of drinking at the Olympics, Brody vomited in the pool and ruined his team's chance to win the relay. He may not be a team player, but he IS ripped, and so, after Brody shows up on his motorcycle looking all James Dean, shirts come off and we get our obligatory macho competition, which includes lifting two refrigerators at once. "This has nothing to do with saving people!" complains Brody. Mitch grunts back: "This is *Baywatch*!"

In any case, Brody joins the squad, which includes sexy blonde CJ (Kelly Rohrbach, running slowly), ambitious Summer (Alexandra Daddario), Mitch's co-leader Stephanie (Ilfenesh Hadera), and Ronnie (Jon Bass), chubby and awkward, in the young Jonah Hill role.

Now, if you never saw the TV show, a key point of the plot - though plot is definitely NOT key - is that these lifeguards don't just save kids in deep waters. They're

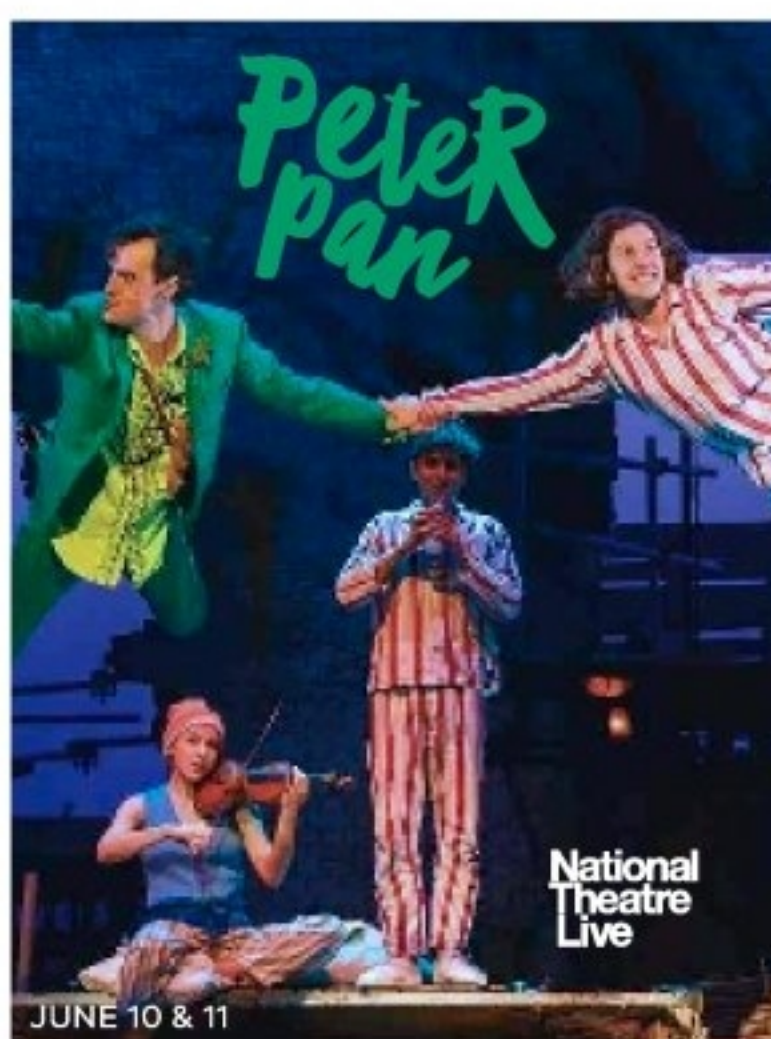
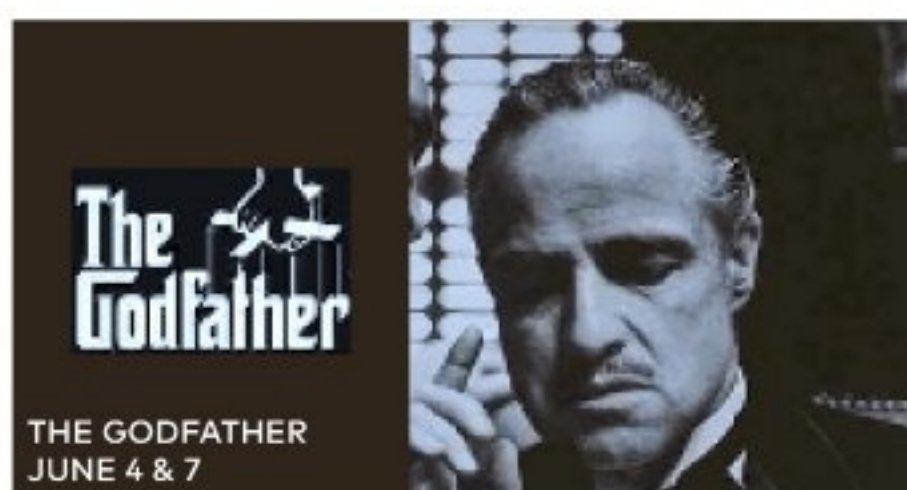
also crime-solvers. So when a city councilman ends up dead in a boat fire, they figure out pretty fast that he was murdered.

But why? Could this have anything to do with villainous Victoria Leeds (Priyanka Chopra), a club owner whose ambitions for Emerald Bay include some very sinister side activities? And can the squad manage to solve the case and stay alive?

It eventually gets wearisome, despite the best efforts of Efron and especially Johnson, who can enliven any scene. His disdainful mocking of Efron's character is one of the more amusing themes, especially the nicknames he uses: "Hey, One Direction." "Yo, 'N Sync." Best of all: "High School Musical."

But darned if that quick reference to Efron's breakout franchise doesn't make you all nostalgic for some old-fashioned entertainment that didn't rely on F-bombs, crude anatomical references, or toying with a corpse. (Sorry to bring that up again, but, UGH.) THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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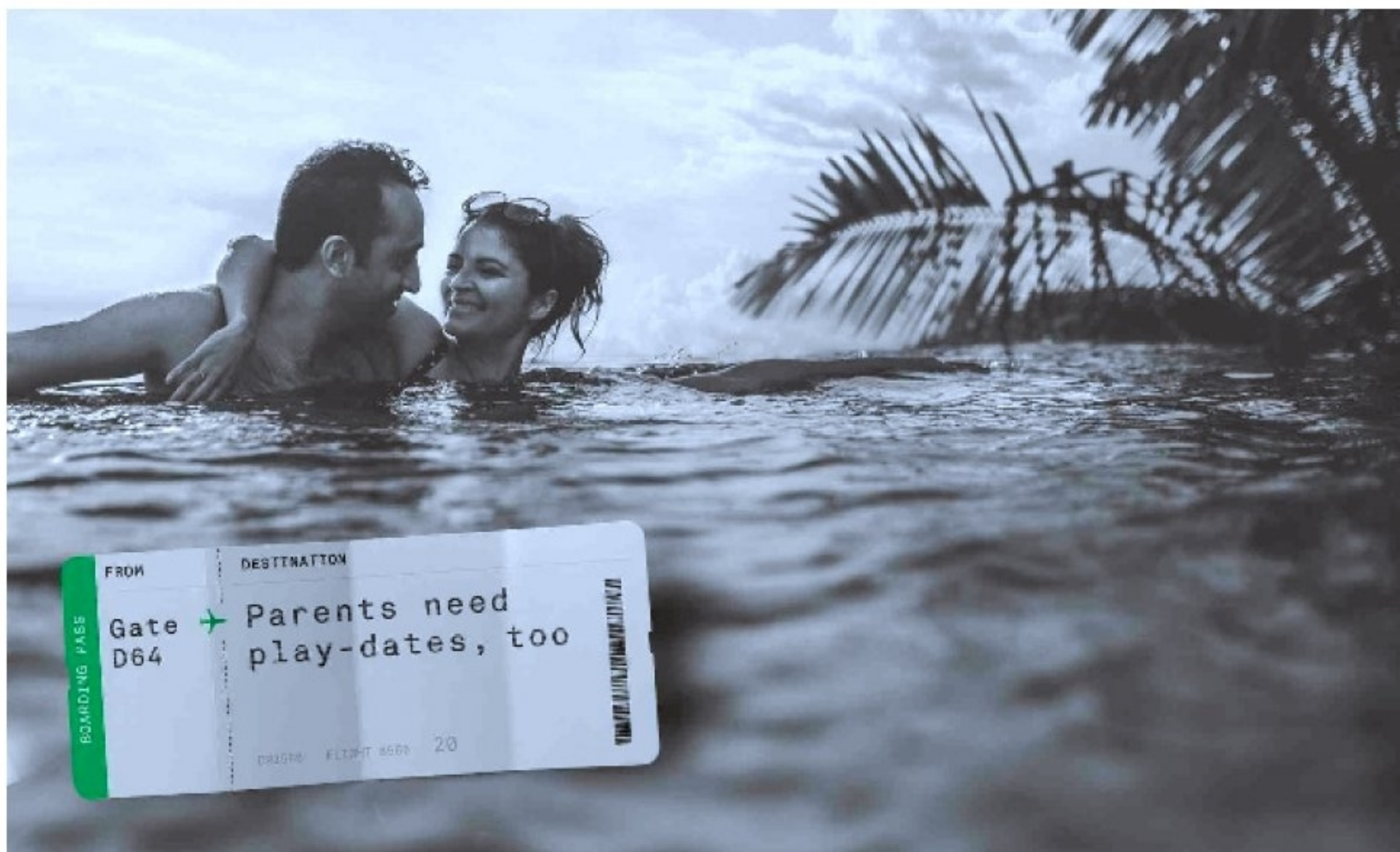


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Nicole Kidman's new movie, *The Beguiled*, offers a woman's take on a classic and has a mostly female cast. GETTY IMAGES

Kidman's call for female directors

REPRESENTATION

4.2 per cent of 2016's major films helmed by women

Peter Howell
life@metronews.ca

Nicole Kidman, the most visible actress at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival, made an impassioned pitch Wednesday for more female directors of movies and TV shows as she criticized the slow pace of change in male-dominated Hollywood.

Speaking at a morning press conference following the world premiere of Sofia Coppola's *The Beguiled*, a star-studded remake of a 1971 Southern Gothic drama steeped in male vs. female tensions, Kidman rattled off statistics showing how rare a film like this is.

Just 4.2 per cent of the major motion pictures of 2016 were directed by women, she said, and in the same year only 183 of the more than 4,000 episodes of TV were female-helmed. The situation isn't much better for the current Palme d'Or contest at Cannes, where *The Beguiled* is one of just three films directed by women among the 19 competing for the Palme.

"We as women have to support female directors," Kidman said.

"That's just a given now. Hopefully, that will change over time. Everyone keeps saying, 'Oh, it's so different now.' It isn't. Listen to that."

Kidman, a frequent sight on the Cannes 2017 red carpet as she appears in three films and one TV series premiering here, spoke on a stage surrounded by Coppola and by members of *The Beguiled*'s mostly female cast: Kirsten Dunst, Elle Fanning, Angourie Rice and Addison Riecke.

Also present was Colin Far-

rell, the film's male lead and virtually sole male presence, who joked about "being the token male — and if I'd said token female, then the debate would be open!"

But he backed up Kidman's call for better gender representation, lamenting the fact that *The Beguiled* is only the second film of the dozens he's made in his nearly 20-year showbiz career that was directed by a woman. (The other was Liv Ullmann's *Miss Julie* in 2014.)

The Beguiled aims to improve the situation a bit by offering a woman's take on a classic film previously shot from a male perspective: Don Siegel's 1971 original, starring Clint Eastwood in the role of a wounded Union soldier during the Civil War who finds both refuge and intrigue at a Southern all-girls school. Farrell has Eastwood's role in the remake while Kidman plays the school's take-charge headmistress, a role previously played by Geraldine Page.

FILM BRIEFS

VR plunges viewers into desperate migrants' lives

Carne y Arena (Flesh and Sand), a next-level virtual reality installation at the Cannes Film Festival by Mexican director Alejandro González Iñárritu (*The Revenant*, *Birdman*) and cinematographer Emmanuel Lubeski, Oscar winners both, who want to give people an idea of what it really feels like to be a person so desperate to start a new life in America, they're willing to risk their lives to get in.

The installation is in a hangar in a small airport, about a 20-minute drive along the Riviera waterfront from the centre of Cannes. Little explanation is given as you are escorted by a guide to a room roughly 50 feet square, located behind a billboard-sized piece of corrugated steel that used to be part of the actual boundary wall between Mexico and Arizona. It was previously used as makeshift helicopter pad for U.S. troops fighting the Vietnam War.

Carne y Arena is premiering at Cannes as the first-ever VR pick for the festival's Official Selection.

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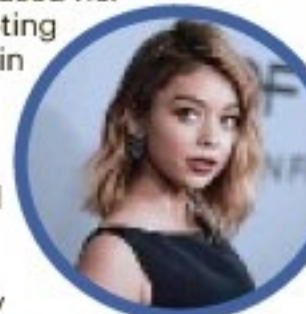
Hyland responds to social media criticism

Modern Family star Sarah Hyland says her skinny appearance lately is due to a medical condition.

The 26-year-old says in a social media post that critics have accused her of promoting anorexia in pictures she's posted.

Hyland says she has "basically been on bed rest for the past few months." Hyland told Seventeen magazine that she received a kidney from her father.

Hyland stars as Lisa Houseman in ABC's TV movie remake of Dirty Dancing. AP



TRAGEDY

Grande manager offers support

Ariana Grande's manager says he plans to honour those killed by the bombing after her concert with "love and joy and life."

Scooter Braun wrote on Twitter that "the wish of terrorism is to take away that feeling of freedom and joy."

Braun says that can't be allowed and "fear cannot rule the day."

A suicide bomber killed 22 people during the attack outside the arena in Manchester, England, just after Grande's show ended Monday. Grande tweeted that she was "broken" after the bombing. AP



AWARDS

Alessia Cara, Joe Jonas, to host video awards

Canadian vocal powerhouse Alessia Cara is pairing with Joe Jonas to host this year's iHeartRadio Much Music Video Awards.

The Brampton, Ont.-raised singer is making her debut as an awards show host.

The televised street party in Toronto is set to feature performances by Jonas and his band DNCE, Lorde, Imagine Dragons

and solo artist Julia Michaels. CP



Widow pens letter to late Chris Cornell

IN MEMORY

Message of support comes days after the star's death

Chris Cornell's widow has penned a letter addressed to the late Soundgarden frontman days after he took his own life. Vicky Cornell writes in the note published online by Billboard on Wednesday that she's sorry she didn't "see what happened to you that night." Cornell was pronounced dead on May 18 after being found unresponsive in his Detroit hotel room.

"I'm sorry you were alone, and I know that was not you, my sweet Christopher. Your children know that too, so you can rest in peace," she wrote.

The Wayne County medical examiner's office said the 52-year-old Cornell hanged himself. A full autopsy and results of toxicology tests are



Chris (left) and Vicky Cornell. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

pending, and Vicky Cornell has said the singer may have taken more of an anti-anxiety drug than he was prescribed.

"I'm broken, but I will stand up for you and I will take care of our beautiful babies. I will think of you every minute of every day and I will fight for you," Vicky Cornell wrote. "You were right when you said we are soul-

mates. It has been said that paths that have crossed will cross again, and I know that you will come find me, and I will be here waiting."

Cornell's funeral is set for Friday in Los Angeles at Hollywood Forever Cemetery in a private service. His body was transported to Los Angeles earlier this week.

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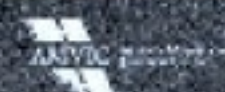


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Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) and company are back for *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales*. CONTRIBUTED

Reviewers want these pirates to walk the plank

FILM

Pirates 5 seems desperate, looks destined to sink at box office

Captain Jack Sparrow might be a household name, but despite the cultural clout, the *Pirates of the Caribbean* franchise has gone adrift.

In some ways, it's been a series of diminishing returns, and they're not done yet. As the fifth film, *Dead Men Tell No Tales*, prepares to set sail Friday, it's already facing a few hurdles, including a changed blockbuster landscape, a star with a diminished profile and a six-year gap between installments.

In 2003 *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl* washed ashore like a revelation — Walt Disney Studios had made a good movie based on a theme park ride, and created an iconic (and money-making) character for Johnny Depp in the process. Fourteen years later things look quite different.

The films, which have earned \$3.7 billion globally, got progressively worse in quality, and, after the second, *Dead Man's Chest*, began to fall off in domestic box office returns too (worldwide earnings inched past \$1 billion for the fourth, *On Stranger Tides*, however).

Disney has also become a different kind of studio, with their pricey but profitable acquisitions of Marvel Studios and Lucasfilm, in addition to their recent successes transforming their animated classics into live-action blockbusters.

And yet, *Pirates of the Caribbean* soldiers on, and *Dead Men Tell No Tales* has some tricks up

its sleeve. With fresh directors at the helm in Joachim Ronning and Espen Sandberg, the filmmakers have made a good effort to return to the spirit of the first film with a new, young cast in Brenton Thwaites and Kaya Scodelario, a return of both Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightley and an Oscar-winning villain in Javier Bardem.

"The actors have worked with Disney and Jerry for many years to make this movie happen. One of the things they were worried about was to bring real characters," said Bardem. "I think they brought a different heart to it."

While early buzz was good for *Dead Men Tell No Tales*, critics have been less kind in their full reviews. The Associated

Press' Mark Kennedy called it a "weary, battered fifth chapter" that "lurches into theatres this summer high on CGI tricks but with a hopelessly muddled plot and recurring characters basically running on fumes."

"After this fifth episode, you'll wish Disney would just declare the franchise dead and tell no more tales," Kennedy wrote.

Depp, too, following a string of flops and missteps, has been scrutinized for recent messy personal issues, including his divorce from actress Amber Heard.

In January, on the same day the pair finalized their divorce, Depp sued his former business managers seeking more than \$25 million accusing them of

grossly mismanaging his finances.

Depp's ex-managers have vehemently denied the actor's allegations, saying they tried to warn the actor that his spending on lavish properties, vintage vehicles and other items was to blame. They contend Depp's lifestyle cost more than \$2 million a month to maintain. Whether or not the franchise will go on remains to be seen. Much of it likely depends on Depp.

Despite all this, tracking suggests that *Pirates 5* could bring in around \$80 million in box office. Ultimately the fate of the franchise, and Depp's box office power, is in the hands of the ticket buyers.

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PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Multiple hosts may replace the retiring Mansbridge

As Peter Mansbridge prepares to bid farewell to The National, the CBC's flagship news program is looking to possibly enlist multiple hosts for the anchor desk.

"We want it to be a show around active journalists," Jennifer McGuire, general manager and editor-in-chief of CBC News, said in an interview.

"We want the hosts of the show to be able to do field-based work too, and that will be more manageable with more than one (person) in terms of how the show works."

McGuire said they are scouting for candidates within and outside of the public broadcaster to take over for Mansbridge, who plans to step down after July 1. Mansbridge's career has spanned nearly five decades,



The National anchor, Peter Mansbridge, is retiring after 28 years in the role. CONTRIBUTED

including 28 years at the helm of The National as anchor and chief correspondent.

A full revamp of The National is slated to debut in mid-October.

"It will be a new format, it will be a new set, it will be new graphics - the whole feel," said

McGuire.

McGuire said the broadcaster is in the process of determining which elements of the existing show will work with the new concept. The new National will likely have fewer stories and a greater focus on depth of coverage, she noted.

The National managing editor Steve Ladurantaye was recently reassigned after what the CBC called "an inappropriate, insensitive and frankly unacceptable tweet" he made as part of a controversial debate over cultural appropriation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

REPRESENTATION

Little progress for films

The advocacy group GLAAD says the representation of LGBTQ characters in major Hollywood films increased nearly 1 per cent in 2016, but the group says many of the portrayals weren't positive.

GLAAD's annual study released found Hollywood-produced films to be severely lagging behind strides made in television and independent film.

Three of the major studios, Lionsgate Entertainment, Sony Pictures and Walt Disney Studios, were given failing ratings. No studio received positive marks because many of the LGBTQ characters were used as mere punchlines.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

18.4%

Of the 125 films released by major motion picture studios and surveyed by GLAAD, 23 (18.4 per cent) featured LGBTQ characters. Ten of those films featured LGBTQ characters for one minute or less.

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Gossip DIGEST

AN OLYMPIC GYMNAST AND A PLAYBOY MODEL

1 Aly Raisman calls out airport worker for 'muscles' comment

Three-time Olympic gold medalist Aly Raisman is calling out an airport security worker who she says questioned whether she had enough muscles to be a gymnast.

Raisman posted on Twitter on Wednesday that after a female Transportation Security Administration worker said she recognized Raisman by her biceps, a male employee said, "I don't see any muscles." Raisman called the encounter "rude & uncomfortable."

Raisman, who turned 23 Thursday, says she works "very hard to be healthy & fit." She says that if a man can't compliment a girl's muscles, he's sexist.

Raisman didn't say where or when the airport exchange took place.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2 Playmate pleads no contest for online body shaming

Dani Mathers earned fame

posing as a nude model. She gained notoriety on the other side of the camera when she snapped a photo of an unwitting and unwilling subject — a naked 71-year-old woman in a gym locker room.

Mathers, 30, pleaded no contest to misdemeanor invasion of privacy in Los Angeles County Superior Court for the so-called body shaming case. Although she didn't admit guilt, the plea is recorded as a conviction.

The victim, who was not in court, was humiliated by the cruel act, prosecutors said. "Body shaming can devastate its subject," Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer said. "People are mocked, they're humiliated and in ways they can never fully get back."

Mathers, a petite blonde, had apologized for taking the photo at an LA Fitness club in July and posting it on Snapchat with the caption: "If I can't unsee this then you can't either."

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HEALTH AND WELLNESS

New way to kick the glasses is growing in popularity

Refractive Lens Exchange eye surgery is growing in popularity at the Gimbel Eye Centre as an aging population looks for ways to minimize reliance on prescription glasses due to farsightedness, nearsightedness or astigmatism.

This is great news for patients who want to enjoy the benefits of vision correction without waiting for cataract surgery, according to Gimbel Eye Centre Calgary chief operating officer Gregg Becker.

"The procedure can be done in advance of when cataract surgery would typically happen, which eliminates the need for that surgery as time passes," he explains.

"In Refractive Lens Exchange (RLE), the natural lens is replaced with an artificial implant. While there is no waiting list for this procedure, it is not covered by Alberta Health Care."

Patients between the ages of 45 to 75 are often perfect candidates for RLE.

"We have many clients who have wanted to get rid of their glasses for years, but were not aware this is an option," Becker adds.

Gimbel also continues to offer a full

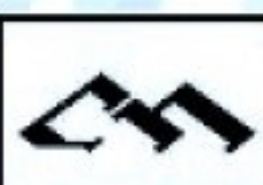


ISTOCK

range of other ophthalmology treatments, including Lasik and PRK for vision correction, cataract surgery, and specialized treatments like the new EVO lens and KAMRA surgery to minimize or eliminate reading glasses.

Gimbel Eye Centre Calgary recently added Dr. Kevin Warrian to its practice. Dr. Warrian is a specialist in retinal and glaucoma eye conditions, and is one of the few ophthalmologists working in these areas in the northwest.

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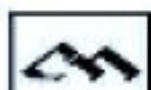
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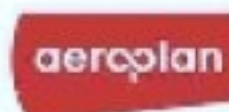
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Seinfeld takes Montreal

COMEDY

Star reflects on his career, changes in the industry



Seinfeld, 63, will perform in Montreal. THE CANADIAN PRESS Way for comics to get

The last time Jerry Seinfeld was at Montreal's Just for Laughs festival was in 1989 and audiences were just getting introduced to his motley crew of TV characters and their droll observations about everyday life in New York.

Since then, the show about nothing became quite something.

The comedy landscape has also changed dramatically since Seinfeld's last visit. Online streaming services have provided a new

their material out. And it seems comedians are more important and influential than ever amid boiling political tensions in the U.S.

"I think there is something about how comedians are able to explain or make you feel better about some of these things that you see that seem crazy," the comedy giant said recently by phone from New York.

"You see somebody make fun of it and you go, 'OK, so it's not just me, everyone else is seeing how crazy this is.'"

"I think it's unifying in a time when people feel divided."

The Canadian Press spoke with Seinfeld about his upcoming Just For Laughs show at Montreal's Bell Centre on July 26, which he's co-headlining with French-Moroccan comedian Gad Elmaleh, who once lived in Quebec.

You're returning to Just for Laughs for the first time since 1989, the year Seinfeld started. What was that time of your life like?

At that time I was a very popular comedian, in the '80s, and in those days when you were really popular that meant you would sell out 200 seats a night. That's how different comedy

was in the '80s than it is now. Then I came to Just for Laughs and then it was like Canada was aware of me and I was able to go all across Canada.

Were there any Canadian comedians you came to know?

I got to know Jim Carrey in California when he came down. I always loved him, and Martin Short and all the great people from Second City. I think there's always been a great crossover with Canadians liking American comedians and Americans liking Canadian comedians.

You have also always avoided politics in your act. Is that because it's so divisive in the U.S.?

It definitely is now. But comedians will talk about the things that are funny when they talk about it. That's how they pick their subjects. There's really no strategy to it. If I thought of really funny political jokes, believe me, I would be doing them, but I don't.

You had former U.S. president Barack Obama on your web show — would you have Donald

Trump on there?

He doesn't seem like a funny guy to me. I've never heard him say anything funny.

I read that you've been riffing on "doughnut holes" in your recent shows?

Yes, I just find it interesting that they can get away with calling something a "hole," because a hole doesn't exist.

Up here we call them Timbits — have you tried them?

Yes, I am familiar with the Tim Horton Timbit. (Horton) decided, "This actually exists, so we can't call it a hole."

What do you hear from millennials about "Seinfeld" and their experience watching it today?

I find it funny that the show still works for them. My personal feeling is it's kind of the way the show was written comedically that holds their attention. There is a pace to it and a tightness to the writing that I think other sitcoms did not have.

This interview has been edited and condensed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



SPONSORED CONTENT

ORGANICS AND FARMERS' MARKETS

Field to Fork suppers celebrate fresh, local foods in the park

If you're a fan of fresh, local food and creative ways to enjoy it, the new Field to Fork dining series at Heritage Park Historical Village is one to mark on your calendar.

Presented by The Selkirk Grille — an elegant Canadian cuisine-focused restaurant — Field to Fork will feature several themed dinner evenings utilizing the organic, fresh, local produce grown in the park.

An inaugural "East Coast Meets West Coast" Lobster Boil dinner celebrates Canada's 150th birthday with a family-style feast at the Founder's Lounge and patio. Selkirk Grille Chef de Cuisine Tobias Larcher and Heritage Park Executive Chef Leighton Smyth have created menus inspired by the less common heritage vegetables, herbs, fruits and flowers growing in the park's gardens — things like kale coleslaw and butter-poached rainbow potatoes — to go with the shucked oyster station, whole lobster and fresh-baked brioche buns and sourdough breads that are part of the Lobster Boil.

"It's a chance for the public to enjoy tastes of the Selkirk Grille, but at a unique location elsewhere in the park," says Heritage Park communications specialist Barb Munro. "These well



CONTRIBUTED

thought-out dinners tie in well with the heritage showcased at the park. They're for all who appreciate locally grown, delicious foods."

In July, Field to Fork recreates an Edwardian Garden Party, while August will feature a progressive dinner through the park and its eras, and September takes patrons on a culinary tour celebrating the park's gardens.

The June 29 Lobster Boil is \$89.95 per ticket. See heritagepark.ca for details.



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4 ISLANDS TO VISIT IN THE CARIBBEAN

St. Vincent and the Grenadines is a collection of 32 islands and cays in the eastern Caribbean. The opening of the Argyle International Airport will drastically change the area's tourism game with non-stop jet service now being offered from North, Central and South America, and Europe. To get the full awe-inspiring experience, island hop to a few of the more secluded resorts. **CHARMAINE NORONHA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



1 Palm Island

Palm Island, formerly Prune Island, was renamed after the former owners of the private island, the late John and Mary Caldwell, planted hundreds of palms, transforming the spot into a Caribbean paradise. Palm Island Resort capitalizes off of this palm-blanketed oasis by offering an eco-friendly, luxury, all-inclusive experience. Grab a resort bike and pedal to one of its secluded hammocks for a beach picnic for the ultimate relaxing afternoon. Or slip into the spa and into nirvana with a Balinese massage. Details: palmislandresortgrenadines.com

ALL PHOTOS CHARMAINE NORONHA/
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Petit St. Vincent

"Welcome to paradise," says a smiling Petit St. Vincent Resort employee when I arrive on this private island, the most southern of the Grenadines. And he ain't lying. This slice of heaven is all about privacy. You won't be disturbed in your remote hillside or beach villa until you hoist a yellow flag outside of your room, alerting staff that your rum punch needs a top-up or you'd like to grab snorkelling equipment to scope out the sea life outside your door. Details: petitstvincent.com

2 Young Island

Young Island is the most northerly island in the Grenadine chain, just south of mainland St. Vincent. Head to Young Island Resort for a lush getaway on the 5.3-hectare private island. Each cottage has an ocean view, with some offering private plunge pools and gazebos. Prep your palate for its famous freshly baked six loaves of breads presented to you at your table daily at lunch and dinner. The breads include white, coconut, banana, raisin, cinnamon and wheat. (My vote is for the cinnamon.) Details: youngisland.com



4 Tobago Cays

Hop on a catamaran to head to the remote and pristine Tobago Cays, a protected wildlife reserve of five islets bordered by a giant horseshoe reef. Slipping into the warm turquoise waters is like touring a sea turtle sanctuary — I swim by at least 15 shelled beauties. And though I've snorkelled my fair share, it's the first time I've got to hold a sea urchin and starfish. Details: tobagocays.org

The author's trip was sponsored by the St. Vincent and the Grenadines tourism board, which didn't review or approve this story.



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TRAVEL NOTES ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN AND OCEAN LINERS

Honouring Wright

Seven cultural organizations in western New York are uniting for a series of events commemorating the 150th anniversary of architect Frank Lloyd Wright's birth. Events are planned from June through October, focusing on Wright's influence on the region's Arts and Crafts movement. Collaborations between Wright and Buffalo's Arts and Crafts industries gave the region a large collection of masterpieces from the period. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Route 66's neon past**

Hundreds of design sketches for some of Route 66's most memorable neon signs have been preserved and are now part of a university's special collection. Two professors teamed up to rescue the colourful, hand-drawn mid-century designs from a cache of old business records at an Albuquerque sign-making shop. Mark Childs and Ellen Babcock, professors at the University of New Mexico, turned the find into a book. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Exhibit: Atlantic liners**

A museum in Salem, Mass., is exploring the golden era for the luxury liners that once crossed the Atlantic Ocean. The exhibit at the Peabody Essex Museum tells a narrative of society's love of ocean travel and how the ships evolved over the 100 years they ruled the seas. From the Titanic, there's a wooden deckchair and a piece of hand carved wooded archway, the largest surviving piece of woodwork from the wreck. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



ALL PHOTOS THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bringing new life to province's past

CANADA 150

Meet history-makers during tours of B.C.'s legislature

Mary Ellen Smith appears unannounced at the chamber gates and recounts the historic moment in 1918 when she rose to speak in the legislature as British Columbia's first elected female provincial politician.

"My heart was beating so loudly in my ears I could hardly hear myself think," says actor Madeleine Humeny, wearing a period costume featuring a long, dark dress and bonnet during a free guided tour of the iconic political building that dominates the landscape of Victoria's Inner Harbour.

"We were just the right women at just the right time and in just the right place," says Humeny, who remains in character to explain Mary Ellen Smith's pivotal role in leading the struggle for women's rights in B.C., and ultimately the right to vote in 1917.



Free tours recount the history made in B.C.'s legislature building in Victoria. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Actors playing five prominent personalities from B.C.'s past are brought back to life to highlight the historical characters and events that helped shape and define the province.

The actors are dressed in turn-of-the-century costumes and interact with visitors on the legislature grounds while delivering historically accurate monologues.

Other characters are Her Majesty Queen Victoria; Francis Mawson Rattenbury, the legislature's architect; Thomas Uphill, the longest serving MLA in B.C.'s history; and Amor De

Cosmos, B.C.'s second premier.

Rattenbury was 25 when he won an architectural contest in 1892 to design B.C. Parliament Buildings. It was his first commission and the buildings described as free classical opened in February 1898. The cost of construction was just over \$2 million.

Rattenbury designed the buildings to feature the raw materials of the province. Grey andesite volcanic material on the building's facade is from Haddington Island. The granite used in the foundation and front stairs is from Nelson Island and the many hardwoods panelling interior rooms are from B.C. forests. The roof was originally tiled with slate from Jervis Inlet.

Tour guide Hanna Kim makes stops at the building's main interior rooms, halls and chambers, including the reception hall, the legislative chamber and the memorial rotunda and lower rotunda.

She stands before a large, brightly coloured aluminum cast of B.C.'s coat of arms, adopted in 1897, and explains the significance of the design,

which reflects the province's colonial past and natural splendour.

The crowned lion represents the Queen's royal crest, while an elk signifies the former colony of Vancouver Island and a bighorn sheep represents the former mainland colony of British Columbia.

The Latin motto, *Splendor Sine Occasu*, means "beauty without diminishment," and ringing the bottom of the coat of arms is a dogwood garland, B.C.'s flower since 1956.

Kim stops at the second-floor memorial rotunda and asks visitors to look up to the tiny, winding staircase that leads to the octagonal renaissance-style dome that distinguishes B.C.'s legislature building from the many circular neo-classical domes of other North American parliament buildings.

She jokes that climbing the staircase is not part of the tour but mentions the dome is 30.5 metres high. The top of the dome includes one of the building's most recognized features, the two-metre-tall gold-plated statue of Capt. George Vancouver. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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LOS ANGELES

Star-studded premieres still held at Chinese Theatre

King Kong made his cinematic debut there in 1933. There was a yellow "brick" carpet when the Wizard of Oz premiered in 1939. George Lucas brought R2-D2 and C-3PO along for the premiere of Star Wars in 1977, and the two droids left their marks in the cement out front.

A symbol of Hollywood's golden age, Grauman's Chinese Theatre is turning 90. Now known as the TCL Chinese Theatre, the landmark movie palace first opened on May 18, 1927.

"It's still the most amazing theatre," Cher said at a recent premiere. "I remember coming here (when) I was very small... It was so magical."

Sid Grauman's masterpiece movie house stands on a busy corner of Hollywood Boulevard,

next to the Dolby Theatre where the Oscars are now presented and across the street from the historic Roosevelt Hotel, where the first Oscar ceremony was held in 1929. A Hollywood take on a Chinese temple, it boasts a pagoda-shaped roof and ornate marble carvings, with a cement forecourt filled with celebrity handprints, footprints and signatures.

The theatre still hosts dozens of premieres each year and its famous forecourt draws an estimated five million tourists annually — many of whom don't realize they can actually go inside and see a movie.

"Occasionally you'll get the tourist that comes up and asks for a restaurant reservation," said Levi Tinker, the theatre's general manager and staff historian.

A showman and entrepreneur, Grauman started building the Chinese Theatre in 1926, the same year he and other Hollywood titans established the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. He imagined an elegant



Forecourt of the Stars: A tourist places her hands inside Matt Damon's prints.

and otherworldly movie palace that would transport visitors to ancient China, with its serene gardens and regal temples.

"He really wanted to give the audiences who came inside here an escape from reality," Tinker said. "So he spared no expense in getting the best artists, the best designers, and even importing elements from China."

Grauman commissioned original murals and paintings by international artists with Hollywood connections. He hired a Chinese sculptor to make statues and figures that still decorate the auditorium. He sought

permission from the American and Chinese governments to bring in marble and other materials from China, including the Heaven Dogs statues that sit at the theatre's front doors. Most of the original 1927 artwork has been preserved, Tinker said.

The theatre's best-known element, the footprint collection officially known as the Forecourt of the Stars, wasn't part of the original plan. Silent film star Norma Talmadge came to see Grauman at his new building when she accidentally stepped in the wet cement out front. Inspiration struck: Grauman thought a few celebrity footprints would be a great way to promote his new theatre.

He invited his friends and business partners Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks to put their hands and feet in wet cement, and the tradition was born. More than 300 actors, directors and producers have since followed suit. Alien: Covenant director Ridley Scott added his prints just the other week. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Los Angeles declared the theatre a historic-cultural monument in 1968. Inside the historic building, the projection technology has been continually updated to stay on the cutting edge. GETTY IMAGES; THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/FILE (LEFT)

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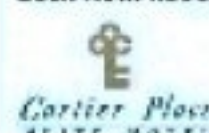


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TOP 150

CELEBRATING CANADA'S GIFTS TO THE WORLD

Canadian creatures

MYTHS

Where to find our five most fantastical beasts

Rhonda Riche

Much of Canada is water and wilderness. So naturally this vast and rugged terrain is perfect for hiding mythological creatures. Here's a guide to Canada's own fantastic beasts:

1 Champ
A serpent-like creature that swims the depths of Lake Champlain between Quebec and the states of New York and Vermont, Champ was first spotted in the mid 1800s. But a short film by two local fishermen went viral in early 2008, making the monster a major celebrity.

2 Ogopogo
Sightings of this water monster have captured the imaginations of both locals and tourists visiting Okanagan Lake in Kelowna, B.C.

3 Mishepishu
For centuries, Ojibwe legends have described a shape-shifting creature that patrols the waters of Lake Superior, protecting the copper found in nearby rock formations. Mishepishu means "Great Lynx," a nod to the creature's feline form.

4 Loup-Garou
The loup-garou legend arrived with 17th-century settlers from France. Over time, it mixed with Indigenous people's stories about shape-shifting shamans. In some rural areas of Quebec, reports of loup-garous attacking livestock were still being made in the 1970s.

5 Old Yellow Top
In 1906, mining engineers near Cobalt, Ont., spotted a strange humanoid creature, which they described as resembling a bear with a blonde head and black fur. Over the next six decades, Yellow Top (a.k.a. Pre-Cambrian Shield Man) was spotted around roads and railway tracks. As reported by The North Bay Nugget in 1970, the last sighting caused a bus driver to swerve out of control.



Like the Loch Ness Monster, strange and elusive creatures are said to lurk in Canadian waters. ISTOCK



As the legend goes, mining engineers in 1906 spotted a strange humanoid creature — later named Yellow Top — near Cobalt, Ontario. TOSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Lake Champlain is said to be the home of a serpent-like creature named Champ. ISTOCK



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TOP 150 FOR 150

CELEBRATING CANADA'S GIFTS TO THE WORLD

Walk the talk

INVENTIONS

The walkie-talkie was born here

Sean Plummer

An inventor and engineer, Canadian Donald Hings was working for Consolidated Mining and Smelting (CM&S) in 1937 when he developed portable two-way field radios for the company's bush pilots.

He called his invention the "packset," though it would come to be known as the walkie-talkie.

Where earlier mobile radios were vehicle-mounted and used Morse code, Hings's model, dubbed the C-58, was

easy to transport, and transmitted voices over long distances.

He applied for an American patent in 1939, right when Canada declared war against Germany. Hings subsequently offered his patent royalty-free to the Canadian government. CM&S then sent him to Ottawa to aid the war effort, which he did between 1940 and 1945. During that time, Hings modified and improved the packset, which was used by both Canadian and British military, by coming up with several innovations, including filters that eliminated battle noises from transmissions and a scrambler to prevent enemy eavesdropping.

The device was also light, durable, and easy to use. For his work, Hings was named an MBE and given the Order of Canada.



The portable two-way radio, later called the walkie-talkie, was invented in 1937 by Canadian Donald Hings. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Out of the fog

For hundreds of years, lighthouse keepers had used bells, gongs and even cannons to warn ships away from rocky coasts during foggy conditions.

But it was Glasgow-born New Brunswick inventor Robert Foulis who came up with a steam-powered foghorn for Partridge Island in the Bay of Fundy in 1853.

Another engineer submitted Foulis's plans and gained credit until a judicial inquiry credited Foulis. SEAN PLUMMER



ISTOCK



ISTOCK

Green is good

Chemist and geologist Thomas Sterry Hunt was working as a professor at Montreal's McGill University in 1857 when he invented what would become the green ink used by the American treasury on its printed notes. (Hence the term "greenbacks" for American money.)

The ink, called chromium sesquioxide, is not easily destroyed and cannot be photographed, making it nearly impossible to counterfeit well.

The American treasury started using Hunt's invention in 1862, and the greenback lives on to this day. SEAN PLUMMER



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A growing Swede tooth

2017 NHL PLAYOFFS
STANLEY CUP FINAL

Players from Scandinavian nation having a bigger impact

Filip Forsberg is having quite the spring for the Nashville Predators, setting franchise records with his eight goals and 15 points. He's tied the team mark with at least a point in seven straight games.

Pontus Aberg scored the game-winning goal to put Nashville up 3-2 in the Western Conference final, while defenceman Mattias Ekholm has been smothering top lines all post-season. Viktor Arvidsson has 10 points, and his plus-13 rating ties him with Anaheim's Rickard Rakell for second-best this post-season — behind Forsberg (plus-17).

All five of these players are Swedish. It has been a sweet post-season for players from a nation whose players once were derided for being soft and not able to handle the rigours of the NHL. In all, general manager David Poile has six Swedes on Nashville's playoff roster as the Predators reached the Stanley Cup final for the first time in their 19-year history.

"I must admit we haven't gone

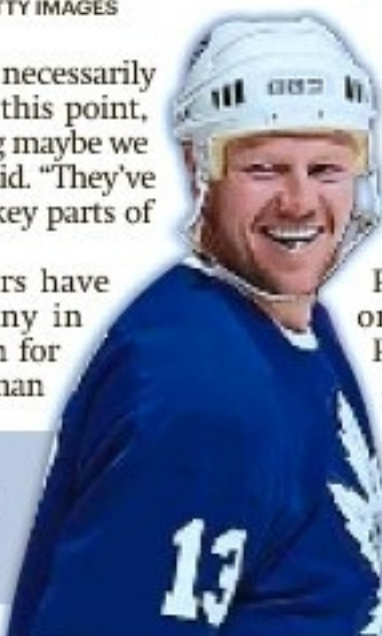


Viktor Arvidsson, left, and Filip Forsberg are two of six Predators from Sweden.

SEAN M. HAFEEY/GETTY IMAGES

out of the way necessarily to get them to this point, but I'm thinking maybe we should," Poile said. "They've certainly been key parts of our team."

The Predators have lots of company in mining Sweden for talent. Defenceman



1,349

Mats Sundin is the all-time leading scorer among Swedes in the NHL with 1,349 points.

GETTY IMAGES

Erik Karlsson is one of four Swedes playing for Ottawa in the Eastern Conference final, while former Nashville forward Patric Hornqvist is one of three for the Pittsburgh Penguins. A check of NHL rosters shows 79 skaters and 10 goalies from Sweden played during the regular season, with 40 appearing in at least

one playoff game.

Anaheim coach Randy Carlyle said Sweden has become a hockey power for a small country. Teammates with Borje Salming and Inge Hammarstrom in 1976 in Toronto, Carlyle saw the abuse directed at both.

"That was a little bit more barbaric or archaic times of hockey," Carlyle said. "But that's how much the game has grown, and it has become a world-class game. And these players are world-class players and now you're looking at their contri-

“

We haven't gone out of the way necessarily to get them to this point, but I'm thinking maybe we should.

Predators GM David Poile

bution and the numbers that are in the NHL, it's all a tribute back to those two players."

Pittsburgh forward Carl Hagelin said Thursday that it's a very good time to be a Swedish hockey player, noting Sweden beat Canada 2-1 in a shootout Sunday night for the world hockey championship. Each NHL team seems have two or three Swedes on the roster.

Yes, they do keep track of their countrymen during the regular season. In the playoffs, all friendships are put aside.

"In the playoffs, you just play to win games," Hagelin said.

Having a Swedish teammate in the NHL means being able to relax and talk with each other in the same language. It's also a little easier to get tips on what to do and not do to ensure a long stay in the league.

"Everybody wants to play here, and everybody wants to make the best out of it if you ever get the chance," Rakell said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Go to metronews.ca for coverage of Game 7 of the Eastern Conference final

IN BRIEF

Ronaldo could face tax-fraud charges in Spain

Spanish prosecutors are considering whether Cristiano Ronaldo should face charges over allegations by the country's tax agency that he defrauded the authorities of 15 million euros between 2011 and 2014.

The alleged irregularities were mostly related to money that Ronaldo had in the Virgin Islands.

Barcelona's Lionel Messi was convicted of tax fraud last year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Raps score draft pick from Magic for GM's release

The Toronto Raptors acquired a future second-round draft pick from the Orlando Magic on Thursday in exchange for the contractual release of general manager Jeff Weltman.

The Magic named Weltman as president of basketball operations Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Blues hire Ott as a coach

The St. Louis Blues have hired Steve Ott to be an assistant coach on Mike Yeo's staff.

General manager Doug Armstrong announced the move Thursday, a little over a month after Ott's final game as a player with the Montreal Canadiens. Ott had not even announced his retirement.

The 34-year-old played 848 NHL games.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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CAVS RISE ABOVE CELTICS Cavaliers forward LeBron James shoots over Celtics forward Jae Crowder during Game 5 of the Eastern Conference final on Thursday in Boston. James scored 35 points and passed Michael Jordan to become the NBA's all-time playoff scoring leader as Cleveland won 135-102 to claim its third straight Eastern Conference title and a return trip to the NBA Finals. ELISE AMENDOLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Kerr's background work helping Dubs

NBA PLAYOFFS

Warriors' ill coach still a doubt to be on bench at Finals

Steve Kerr is involved in just about everything but the actual game-day coaching for the Golden State Warriors — film session, coaches meetings, game-planning and practice.

He's just not yet ready from a health standpoint to be back on the bench with the start of the NBA Finals a week away.

General manager Bob Myers made the announcement Thursday, though he didn't rule out Kerr returning at some point if he somehow is healthy enough to do so — though that doesn't appear promising at this stage.

"If he feels better and we have to make those decisions, we will, but right now we're not putting any deadlines on should he feel better what will we do," Myers said. "It'll be based on what day it is, how exactly he feels, how long he's felt well. I should be saying this with more emotion because it's hard for me. I'm kind of in this basketball mode but he's a person and he's not feeling well and that's what makes it hard."

"It's painful, and I know it's

May 5

The date Steve Kerr underwent a procedure to repair a spinal fluid leak stemming from complications after two back surgeries in 2015.



It is unsure if Warriors coach Steve Kerr will be courtside for the Finals. ANDY LYONS/GETTY IMAGES

painful for him more than anybody."

Kerr was there as his team returned to practice following a two-day break after completing a four-game sweep of the Spurs on Monday night to improve to 12-0 this post-season. Myers noted that "just having him in the building and around is very powerful."

The 51-year-old Kerr underwent a procedure May 5 to repair a spinal fluid leak stemming from complications after two back surgeries in 2015, after the Warriors won their first championship in 40 years during his first season as coach.

While people have asked Kerr whether he should step away, Myers knows that's not the immediate answer.

"This is his sanctuary. Even



This is his sanctuary. Even though he's suffering, being at home or being removed is actually harder if we can understand that, because this is his joy.

Warriors GM Bob Myers on Kerr helping the team

though he's suffering, being at home or being removed is actually harder if we can understand that, because this is his joy," the GM said. "Even though it's a muted joy right now, this is the best thing that he feels. This is his fulfillment."

Kerr returned to practice May 13 after more than three weeks off the court, and he hasn't coached the Warriors on the bench since Game 2 of the first round against Portland. He then travelled for the Western Confer-

ence final to San Antonio and has been watching games from behind the scenes, speaking to the team beforehand and during halftime. Acting coach Mike Brown has been leading Golden State during Kerr's absence.

It's unclear how well the latest procedure worked for Kerr, who missed the initial 43 games last season dealing with debilitating symptoms such as headaches and nausea that have returned throughout this season.

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PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada



• 1/2 tsp salt

Directions

Turkey burger skeptics listen up! Transform the mild taste of turkey meat with a major hit of flavour thanks to herbes de Provence and gooey Gruyere cheese making these babies true grilled greats..

Ready in 30 minutes

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes

Ingredients

- 1 lb. ground lean turkey meat
- 1/4 cup finely diced onion (or sometimes I drop the onion in my food processor and process it so it's more a paste so little ones don't want to pick it out of their burgers)
- 1/2 cup finely diced
- Gruyere cheese
- 3 Tbsp herbes de Provence

1. In a large bowl, mix the turkey meat with the onion, cheese herbes de Provence and salt. Form into 6 patties or 8-10 sliders. Preheat your grill.

2. Cook the patties on the grill or in a frying pan over medium heat for about 10 minutes, flipping once, and then cook for another 8 to 10 minutes. Remove from the grill or frying pan when the patties have an internal temperature of 180 F.

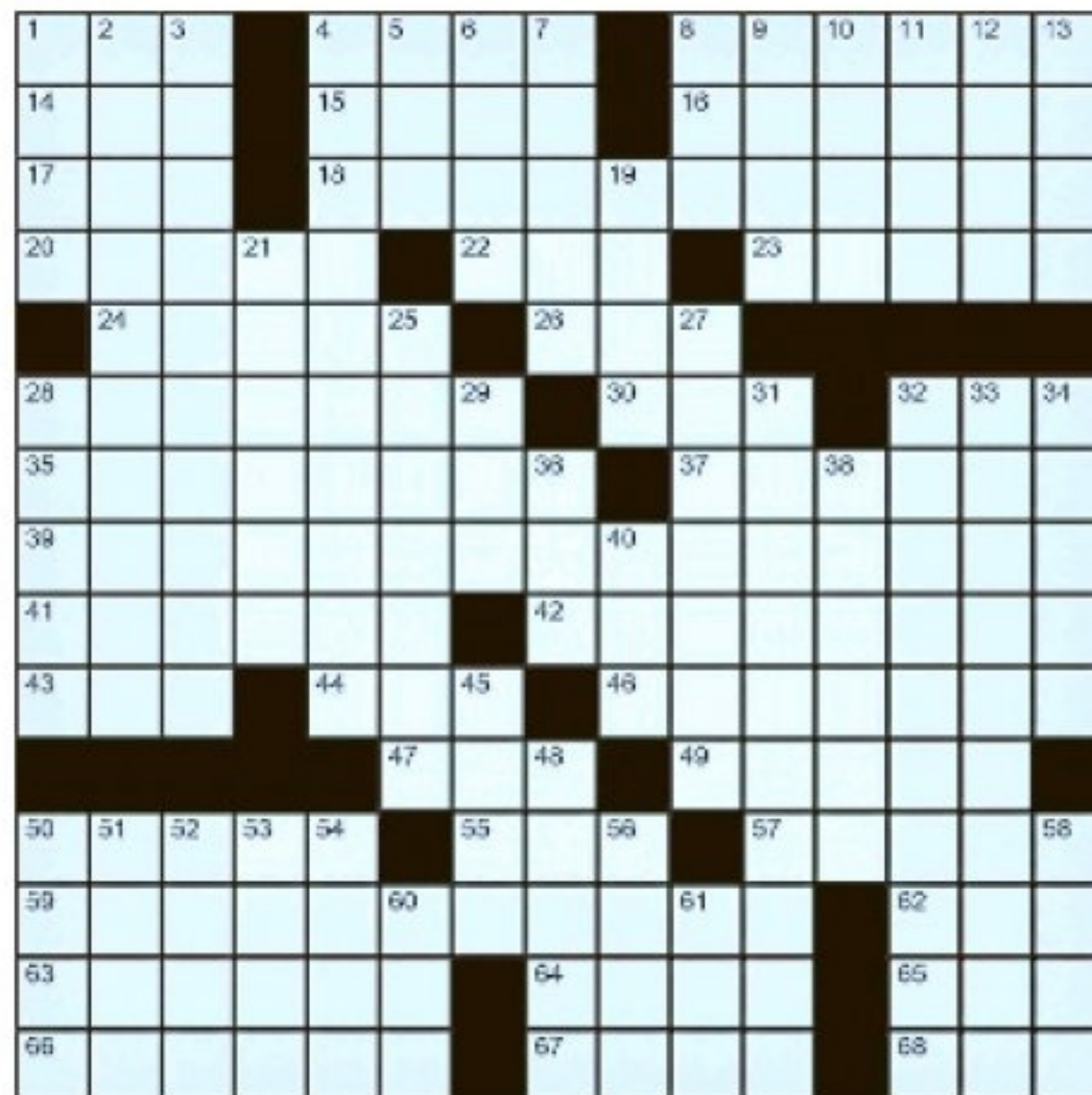
3. Serve on fresh buns with your family's favourite fixings.

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ACROSS

1. Electrical resistance unit
4. Bunch
8. Gobbled
14. Scottish veto
15. Farm song bit: "Here __, there..."
16. Ancient Olympic deity
17. Craft
18. Make a soccer move: 3 wds.
20. Country singer Mr. Adkins
22. Italy's l'il locale
23. Thicket
24. "___ potential" (Shopper's observation)
26. Glove compartment item
28. Hand-gestured peace signs and some sweater necklines
30. Tangle
32. Nero's 151
35. Home's not-many-walls layout
37. One working with saws and wrenches, say
39. Canada's longest spelunking attraction, located in Banff National Park: 2 wds.
41. Ascended
42. Baseball... Reaches home plate like this: 2 wds.
43. Novels, e.g.
44. Cul-de-__
46. 'Season with salt as you like': 2 wds.
47. Wknd. day
49. Alias for Patty Hearst in the SLA
50. Music producer Mr. Lange's



55. On, as a candle
57. Attics
59. "That's the Way It Is" bit by Celine Dion: "It's an __ and I'm feeling sorry..."
62. Sundial number
63. Coin of Canada
64. Missing-a-mem-

- ber quartet
65. Last day in May, e.g.
66. Spellbound
67. Chair
68. Genetic letters

DOWN

1. Go __ great length

2. Ontario: Urban green space in London: 2 wds.
3. Transposition in words, such as 'cavalry' and 'calvary'
4. What Newfoundland fruits 'cloudberries' are also called
5. Record co.

6. Viva __ (Word-of-mouth)
7. Li'l Abner's surname
8. Crying sound
9. International oil gr.
10. "Rio __" (1970)
11. Brouhaha
12. Extensions

13. Canned fruit name
19. British streetcar
21. Makes monk music
25. Singer Ms. Gomez's
27. Nationalist
28. Knowledge of words, for short
29. Wilt
31. Jillian Harris' co-host on "Love It or List It Vancouver": 2 wds.
32. Newspaper section, with Ads
33. Demon-exhibited talent during an exorcism
34. Actress Ms. Dunne
36. Greek alphabet letters
38. __ Pacifico (Ecuador's body of water)
40. Mountain stat.
45. Advanced math course, briefly
48. Inclines
50. TV clicker button
51. Knowledgeable: 2 wds.
52. Norse thunder god
53. Ms. Louise of "Gilligan's Island"
54. Fall
56. Bike part
58. Earth's crust layer
60. Authorize
61. Ms. Farrow

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a positive day! You're full of mental energy and enthusiasm. All of your relationships with others will be upbeat and energetic.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
This is an excellent day for business and commerce. Look for ways to boost your income or make intelligent decisions about how you earn your money. You might shop till you drop today!

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is a strong day for you. Both the Sun and the Moon are in your sign, and the Moon is dancing with Mars and Venus. This energizes you in a wonderful way.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Even though you are working behind the scenes today, you will be charming with bosses, parents and others. It's quite likely that someone will seek your advice about how to make something look better.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Travel for pleasure will please you today. A friend or member of a group might help you make this dream come true.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You are high-viz at this time, because the Sun is at the top of your chart. Plus, your ambition is aroused! This is an excellent day to discuss shared property and inheritances.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Discussions about politics, religion and racial issues will be lively and intelligent today. You have focus, and you know what you want to achieve.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
If you are involved in disputes about inheritances or shared property, you will defend your own best interests and the interests of others with vigor. There is no moss growing on you!

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Conversations with partners and close friends are lively today. Get out and enjoy yourself. Social situations, sports events and playful activities with children will appeal to you.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
This is a strong day at work because you have energy and focus. Expect to accomplish a lot. You also might entertain or redecorate at home. Busy you!

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a flirtatious, prankish and playful day. Enjoy all social outings. Make plans to have fun with someone you like.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
This is a good day for a family meeting or discussion. Big changes are taking place at home, and today you can direct these changes the way you want.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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